

Forgiveness in the Family



What's In A Word?

FORGIVE

A black and white photograph of the word "FORGIVE" in large, bold, serif letters on a wooden plank. A heavy chain is draped over the letters, starting from the "E" and extending to the right. The background is a blurred outdoor path with trees.

What's In A Word?

- Through the years:
 - 2019: usage often implies a passive response
 - 900 : Simply meant “to give;” active response



Oxford English Dictionary (1971) indicates that around the year 900 AD the verb to forgive meant simply to give; thus even in its etymological roots it was an active form. It was not until three hundred years after that it came to mean to give up, as in to give up or let go of resentment, indicating that there was a gradual historical trend toward viewing forgiveness as a passive process or description of something that is not felt (to cease to feel resentment) – once more defined by its opposite, a trend that endures to this day.

– Henry Smith, MD



What's In A Word?

- Through the years:
 - 2019: usage often implies a passive response
 - 900 : Simply meant “to give;” active response
 - 30: To let go, give up, not demand, remit
- Journey to English
 - Forgiefan: Giefen (give) and for (completely)

God and Forgiveness



God and Forgiveness

- God forgives in the most active sense
 - “For God so loved the world, that **he gave** his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. – John 3:16
 - Theme runs throughout the Bible

- He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, **in whom we have redemption**, the forgiveness of sins. – Colossians 1:13-14
- In him **we have redemption through his blood**, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace – Ephesians 1:7
- For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is **eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord**.
-- Romans 6:23

God and Forgiveness

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 - This forgiveness is for those who will receive it

- **Come to me**, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. – Matthew 11:28
- On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, “If anyone thirsts, **let him come to me** and drink – John 7:37
- And Peter said to them, “**Repent and be baptized** every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. – Acts 2:38

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 - They understand salvation rests of forgiveness

But God shows his love for us in that while we were **still sinners**, Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God.

For if while **we were enemies** we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.

More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now **received reconciliation**. – Romans 5:8-11

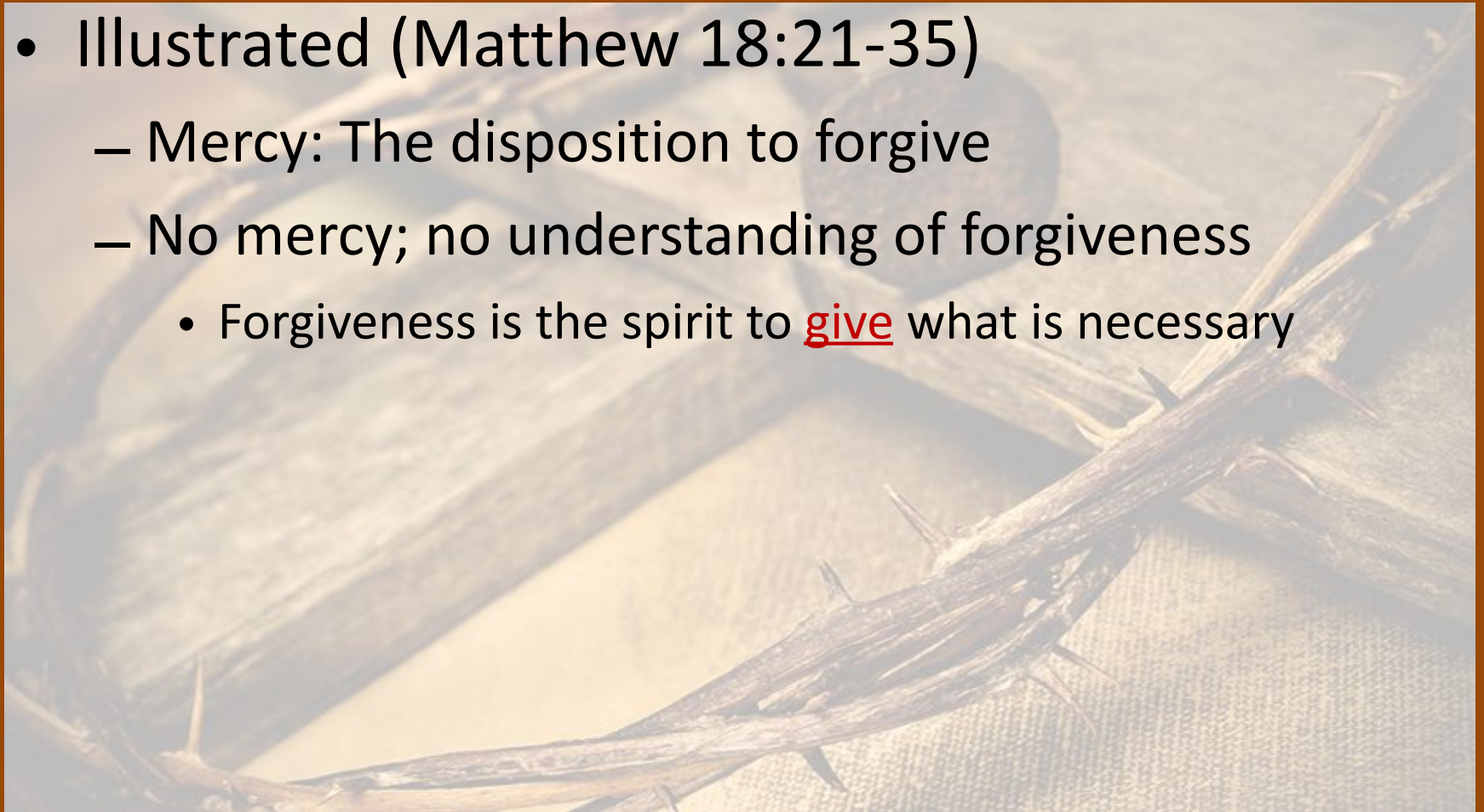
God and Forgiveness

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 - This forgiveness is for those who will receive it
 - They understand salvation rests of forgiveness
 - Understanding is shown through their actions

And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. – Matthew 6:12

God and Forgiveness

- Illustrated (Matthew 18:21-35)
 - Mercy: The disposition to forgive
 - No mercy; no understanding of forgiveness
 - Forgiveness is the spirit to give what is necessary



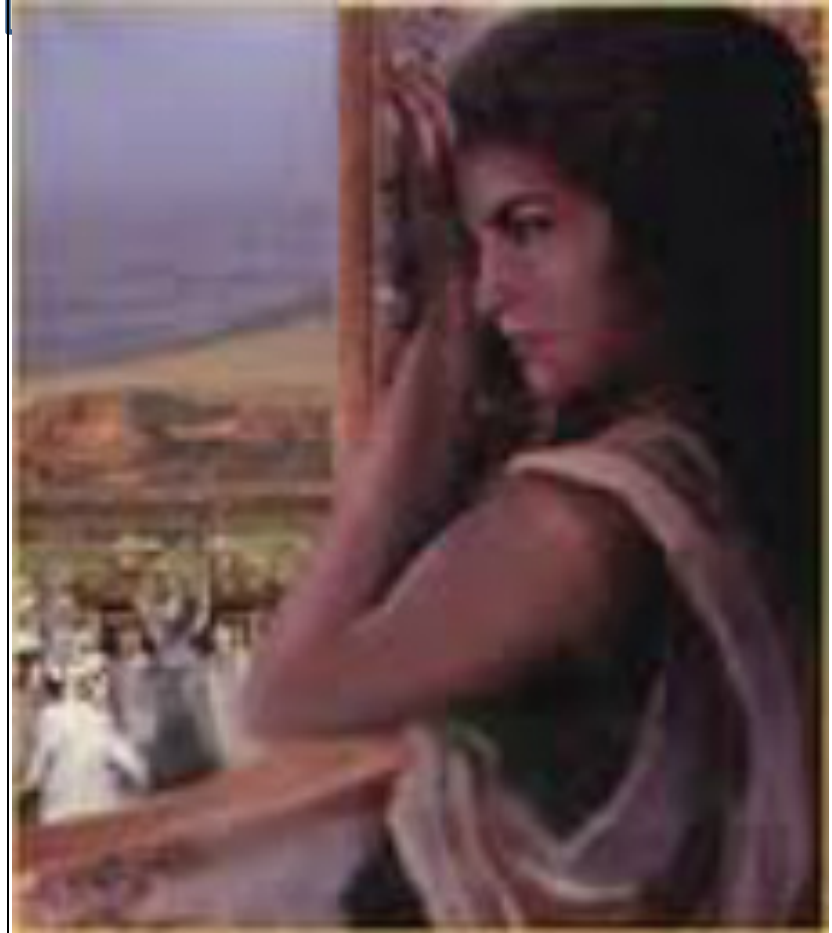
Family Forgiveness



Joseph and his Brothers

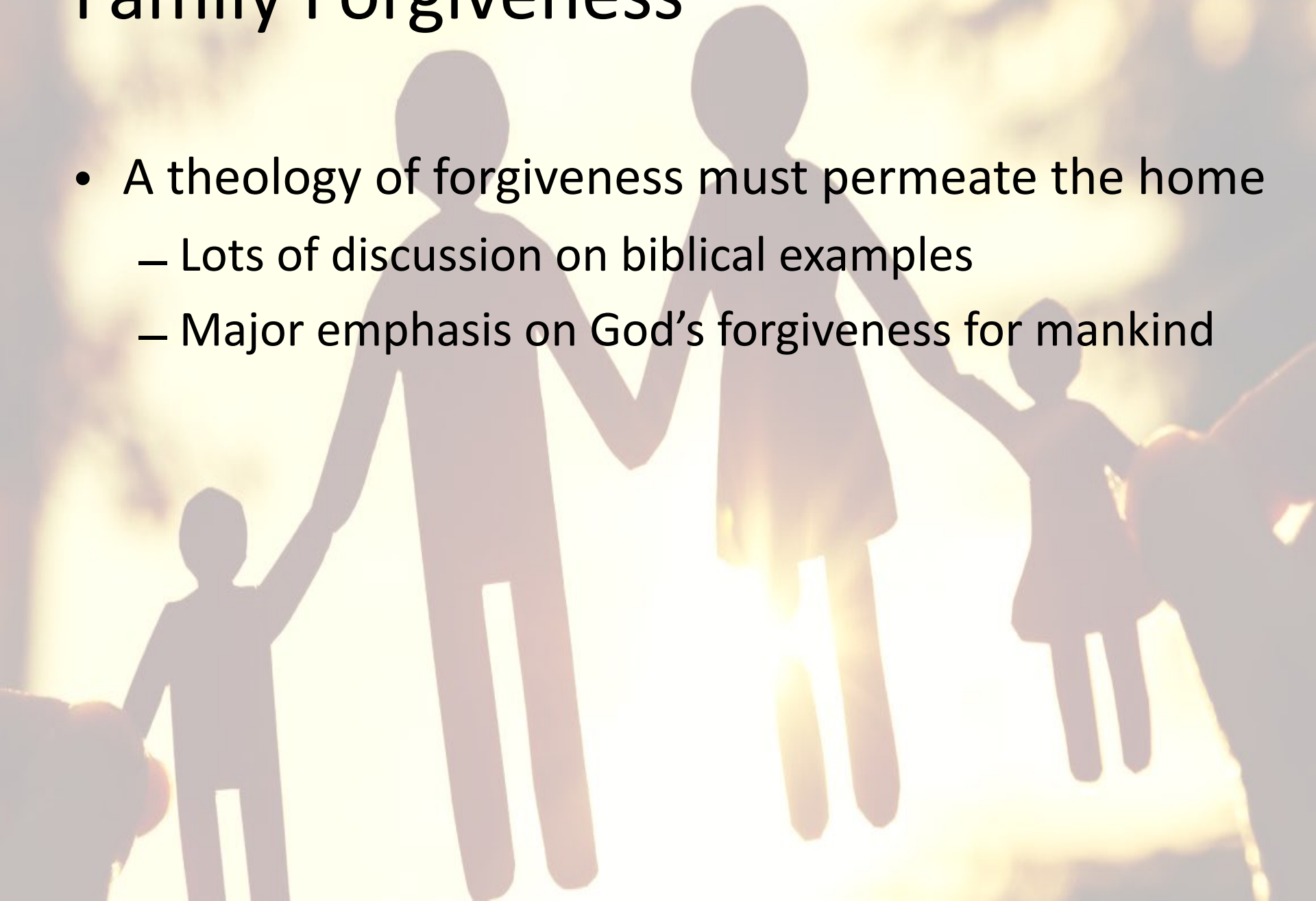


David and Michal



Family Forgiveness

- A theology of forgiveness must permeate the home
 - Lots of discussion on biblical examples
 - Major emphasis on God's forgiveness for mankind



Family Forgiveness

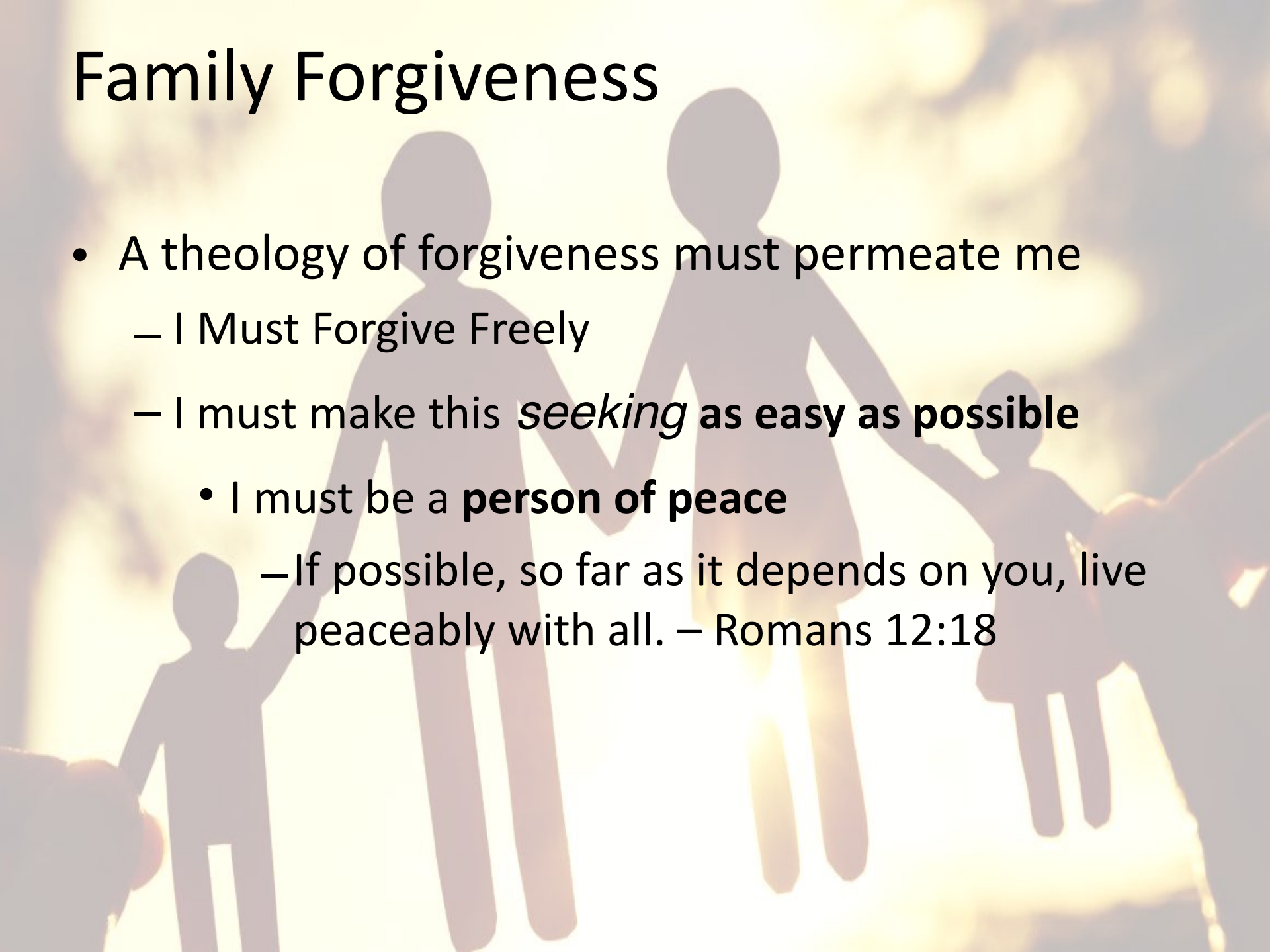
- A theology of forgiveness must permeate me
 - I Must Forgive Freely



- And whenever you stand praying, **forgive**, if you have **anything** against **anyone**, so that your Father also who is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses.” – Mark 11:25
- Pay attention to yourselves! If your brother sins, rebuke him, and if he repents, **forgive him**, and if he sins against you seven times in the day, and turns to you seven times, saying, ‘I repent,’ you **must forgive him**.” – Luke 17:3-4

Family Forgiveness

- A theology of forgiveness must permeate me
 - I Must Forgive Freely
 - I must make this *seeking* as easy as possible
- I must be a **person of peace**
 - If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. – Romans 12:18



Family Forgiveness

The background of the slide features a warm, golden-yellow bokeh effect, suggesting sunlight filtering through trees. Overlaid on this background are dark silhouettes of a family consisting of two adults and three children, all holding hands in a circle, symbolizing unity and forgiveness.

- A theology of forgiveness must permeate me
 - I Must Forgive Freely
 - I must make this *seeking* as easy as possible
 - I must be a **person of peace**
 - I must **never retaliate**
 - Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. – Romans 12:14

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 - I Must Forgive Freely
 - I must make this *seeking* as easy as possible
 - I must be a **person of peace**
 - I must **never retaliate**
- Open communication flourishes in this type of home

The Same Principles are True
for the Local Church

forgive