

UNMERCIFUL SERVANT

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The PARABLE of the Unmerciful Servant

Matthew 18:21-35

(Narrator lines may be divided at Director's discretion.)

RAP #1 NARRATOR

NOW LET'S ALL BE PRETENDERS,
PRETEND WE'RE ALL SPENDERS
WHO OWE LOTS OF CASH, LET'S JUST SAY.
THEN YOUR CREDIT CARD VENDOR
AND HOME MORTGAGE LENDER
COME BANG ON YOUR DOOR ONE DARK DAY.
THEY PAUSE AND THEN WHAT DO THEY SAY?

LENDER #1 LIP SYNC

YOU MUST PAY WHAT YOU OWE
OR YOU SOON WILL BE GONE.
GET YOUR CHILDREN AND GO
AND BE OUT BEFORE DAWN.
ALL THIS STUFF THAT'S FOR SHOW
WILL BE OUT ON THE LAWN
IF YOU DON'T PAY UP NOW!
SEE THESE GOONS WORK FOR ME
AND THEY'LL DRAG YOU AWAY.
NOW IT'S PRISON YOU'LL SEE
AND UNTIL YOU CAN PAY,
THEN IN PRISON YOU'LL BE
AND IN PRISON YOU'LL STAY
IF YOU DON'T PAY UP NOW!

DEBTOR #1 LIP SYNC

NO! SHE SAID NO!
PLEASE DO NOT MAKE US GO.
BUT MY KIDS! LET US STAY.
WE'LL FIND A WAY TO PAY.
WELL, WHAT DO YOU SAY?

LENDER #1 LIP SYNC

WHAT DO I SAY?
WHAT DO I SAY?
OK.
I'LL ASK MY SON TO PAY.

RAP #2 NARRATOR

NOW SHE HARDLY BELIEVED
THE STRANGE GIFT SHE'D RECEIVED.
HER DEBT WAS FORGIVEN THAT DAY!
SO SHE SKIPPED ROUND THE BEND
TO THE HOUSE OF A FRIEND
WHO OWED HER TEN DOLLARS, LET'S SAY.
SHE PAUSED AND THEN WHAT DID SHE SAY?

DEBTOR #1 LIP SYNC

YOU MUST PAY WHAT YOU OWE
OR YOU SOON WILL BE GONE.
GET YOUR CHILDREN AND GO,
AND BE OUT BEFORE DAWN.
ALL THIS STUFF THAT'S FOR SHOW
WILL BE OUT ON THE LAWN
IF YOU DON'T PAY UP NOW.
SEE THESE GOONS WORK FOR ME
AND THEY'LL DRAG YOU AWAY.
NOW IT'S PRISON YOU'LL SEE

AND UNTIL YOU CAN PAY,
THEN IN PRISON YOU'LL BE
AND IN PRISON YOU'LL STAY
IF YOU DON'T PAY UP NOW!

DEBTOR #2 LIP SYNC

NO! SHE SAID, NO!
PLEASE DO NOT MAKE US GO.
BUT MY KIDS! LET US STAY.
WE'LL FIND A WAY TO PAY!
WELL, WHAT DO YOU SAY?

DEBTOR #1 LIP SYNC

WHAT DO I SAY?
WHAT DO I SAY?
NO WAY!

NARRATOR(S)

SO TO PRISON SHE WENT THAT DARK DAY.

RAP #3 NARRATOR

NOW THE PEOPLE IN TOWN
WHO WATCHED ALL THIS GO DOWN,
REPORTED BACK ALL THEY HAD SEEN.
THEN THAT CREDIT CARD VENDOR,
AND HOME MORTGAGE LENDER SAID,

LENDER#1 LIP SYNC

SAD TO HEAR YOU'VE BEEN SO MEAN.

NARRATOR

YOU CAN READ FOR YOURSELF THE NEXT SCENE.

LENDER #1 LIP SYNC

AFTER ALL THAT YOU OWED
AND YOUR DEBT IS NOT MILD,

T'WAS MERCY I SHOWED.
I FORGAVE YOU AND SMILED
AND I CANCELED YOUR LOAD
WITH THE LIFE OF MY...

RAP #4 NARRATOR

SO WHEN YOU'RE TREATED BADLY
AND START PLOTTING MADLY:
REVENGE FOR THE WRONG
YOU'VE BEEN DONE.
JUST REMEMBER YOUR DEBT.
IT'S GIGANTIC, AND YET,
IT'S PAID, BY THE GIFT OF GOD'S SON.

BONUS REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- Have you ever been stressed because you knew you owed something to someone? Maybe an apology? An explanation? An admission of something you had done? Money?
- Think of a time you gathered your courage to go to that person(s) to ask for forgiveness.
- How did it turn out? Worse than expected, or better?
- How did you feel after seeking forgiveness? Were you relieved, or sorry you brought it up?
- Can you think of a time you felt you were "owed" something by someone else? Money? An apology? An explanation?
- If that person came to you to ask forgiveness, how did you respond?
- Is it easier to remember everything you think you are owed than to remember all the times we've been forgiven?

- When it comes to forgiveness, what does it mean to, “Do unto others as you would have them do unto you?”
- Is it tough to comprehend that God has forgiven you of all your sins? Do you deserve this? How does this make you feel when others do you wrong?
- Is there anything you feel you should ask for forgiveness now?
- Is there anyone you might choose to forgive now, whether or not they come to you?

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