

## Thought for the day – Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> August 2021

by Revd John Ohen.

### Forgiveness and Mercy. – (Matthew 18. 21 – end).

We do not know when the Lord is coming again or when we are going to die. We don't know what is going to happen today or tomorrow. We live in time but walk on the edge of eternity. We forget or put out of minds how fragile life can be.

Recently a couple celebrated their 54 years of mirage without a child. When the wife was asked what was the secret of the success and happiness of their mirrage? She replied that it is the ability to forget and forgive and move on with life. The man was asked the same question he said almost the same thing. To be thankful for what we have and don't harbour any grudges, because life is too short to be sad.

In the parable of the unmerciful servant, our Lord Jesus, invites us to consider how the two qualities of Mercy and forgiveness work in the human heart. The servant is a classic example of one who despite being forgiven so much but he is not prepared to forgive someone who owes him so little. So, this parable helps to invoke our sense of moral indignation. How scandalous and shocking we can be a times? It is only through the help of the Holy Spirit, that we can come to our true sense and realise that we are just like that servant.

We all have been forgiven a huge debt of our sins but easily hold on grudges, nurse resentment, and find it hard to forgive others. The lesson here is that since we have received mercy, we equally need to show mercy to others. This is one of the ways we all can make the world a better place for us. By God's grace and mercy, we can show that we are all children of God. Our world needs people who will witness to God's mercy and reveal the love God has lavished on us all.

Bible passage: Matthew 18: 21 – end.

Prayer:

Lord, please forgive me for the wrong things I have done. For bad temper, and angry words; for being greedy and wanting the best for myself, and for making other people unhappy, forgive me heavenly Father. Amen.