

Sketch Based on the Parable of The Unforgiving Servant -

<p>N.I.V. Matt. Ch. 18 vs. 23 - 35 Chap. 8. 23"Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. 24As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him. 25Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt. 26"The servant fell on his knees before him. 'Be patient with me,' he begged, 'and I will pay back everything.' 27The servant's master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go. 28"But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii. He grabbed him and began to choke him. 'Pay back what you owe me!' he demanded. 29"His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay you back.' 30"But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. 31When the other servants saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed and went and told their master everything that had happened. 32"Then the master called the servant in. 'You wicked servant,' he said, 'I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. 33"Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?' 34In anger his master turned him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed. 35"This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother from your heart."</p>	<p>Paraphrase for comparison – Text as found in 'The Message'. At that point Peter got up the nerve to ask, "Master, how many times do I forgive a brother or sister. who hurts me? Seven?" Jesus replied, "Seven! Hardly. Try seventy times seven "The kingdom of God is like a king who decided to, square accounts with his servants. As he got under way, one servant was brought before him who had run up a debt of a hundred thousand dollars. He couldn't pay up, so the king ordered the man, along with his wife, children, and goods, to be auctioned off at the slave market. "The poor wretch threw himself at the king's feet and begged, 'Give me a chance and I'll pay it all back,' Touched by his plea, the king let him off erasing the debt "The servant was, no, sooner, out of the room when he came upon one of, his fellow servants who owed him ten dollars. He seized him by the throat and demanded, 'Pay up. Now!' "The poor wretch threw himself down and begged, 'Give me a chance and I'll pay it all back.' But he wouldn't do it. He had him arrested and put in jail until the debt was paid. When the other servants saw this going on, they were outraged and brought detailed report to the king. "The king summoned the man and said, 'You evil servant! I forgave your entire debt when you begged me for mercy. Shouldn't you be compelled to be merciful to your fellow servant who asked for mercy?' The king was furious and put the screws to the man until he paid back the entire debt. And that's exactly <i>what</i> my Father in heaven is going to do to each one of you who doesn't forgive unconditionally anyone who 'asks for mercy.'"</p>
--	--

The Unforgiving Servant - A tale of the consequences of Unforgiveness.

<p>Characters – Simon (Leader) (S) Mr. Windsor (Agent) (W) Amy (2nd member of the group) (A) Toby (Hard-up musician) (T)</p>	<p>Props required – Model Microphones. (3) 'Monopoly' type Cheques? (possibly) Appropriate clothes for puppets</p>
--	---

NOTE: 'N' = Narrator

<u>Perf.</u>	<u>Words</u>	<u>Notes</u>
N	In this story, there was a young man who wanted to start up a 'Pop' Group – Let us see what happens to him and his friends	Spoken from outside the stage.
S	Lets have another go at our favourite Song	Maybe 'Track' is better?
A	When are we going to get paid for a performance?	
S	Pretty soon I think, Mr. Windsor is prepared to be our Agent.	Group
	GROUP EXIT THEN MR. WINDSOR APPEARS; There is a Knock at the door...	'A' puppeteer takes over puppet for Mr Windsor
W	Come in.	
S	Hello Mr Windsor, thank you for helping us.	
W	I think I have a booking for you, but you'll need a bit more gear!	
S	We can't afford it, can you lend us some money?	
W	Yes all right, but it's only a loan.	Exit Mr. Windsor.
Group	Performs a short song.	Mimes a recording!
S	It seems to be going well Mr Windsor, but I think we need more money. They say you have to 'Speculate to accumulate'. Ha Ha!	Mr. Windsor back.
W	OK but be careful	Mr Windsor Departs
T	Simon, my car has broken down, can I borrow £25 to pay for the repair?	Toby comes on.
S	Yes but pay it back as quickly as you can – Money doesn't grow on trees you know!	
	MUCH LATER... A knock on the door.	Mr Windsor on stage.
W	Come in.	

S	Good afternoon, Sir.	
W	Things are not going so well. You've borrowed a great deal, just over £½M. at the last count! You're going to have to pay it back or I'll be forced to take you to court	
S	Oh! Please sir, I'm nearly bankrupt already, and I've now got a wife and family to support. Please give me more time, I Promise I'll work something out.	
W	Frankly, I don't think you could ever pay off so much. As you are still young, I'll give you another chance, you can forget the debt, I'll get my solicitors to write it off for you.	
S	Oh! Thank you Sir. You don't know what this means to me, I can hardly believe it!	Exit Mr Windsor
S	Toby , Come in here!	
T	What's the matter Simon?	
S	You Still haven't paid back that £25 I lent you! I should have charged you interest – but if you don't pay up now, I'll take you to court! See how you like that!	
T	Oh please Simon, I really can't pay you yet, give me another week.	
S	No way! You've taken far too long already.	Exit S & T (opposite ends)
A	Mr Windsor, I really think you should know. After you let Simon off his debt to you, he went out and took poor Toby to court for £25 he owed him!	Enter Mr Windsor, Then A
W	Did he indeed, we'll soon see about that! Off you go for now Amy.	
W	Simon, will you come in here please!	
S	Yes Sir. What was it you wanted?	
W	I've just heard what you have done to Toby! Couldn't you have been generous in view of the debt I had forgiven You? Now I'm going to tell my solicitor to reinstate your debt, and you will remain bankrupt for the rest of your life unless you succeed in paying off your debt!	
N	What a foolish man Simon was don't you think? Remember Jesus said in the 'Lords Prayer' "Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us". I do hope Simon repents before it's too late ...	

Published on the Internet free of charge by
The DCI Trust, England

NOT FOR SALE
MAY BE COPIED FREE OF CHARGE

© Capt. F. Mercer, 2006
and The DCI Trust, England

www.dci.org.uk