

## **SPIRITUAL TASK —FORGIVING** (Matt 18)

*by the Rev. David Roth at the New Church of Boulder Valley*

**Story** When Peter asked the Lord how often he should forgive others the Lord told a parable about a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. One came to him who owed him 10,000 talents (\$1,000,000,000). The servant couldn't pay and begged for time to pay it. The king cleared the debt in full.

**Meaning** The meaning is clear: the Lord forgives us of all the things we ever do—no matter how huge. But, as the parable further illustrates, if we don't forgive others the Lord's forgiveness means nothing in our lives. We must therefore forgive others of their debts. "Forgive us our debts as we also forgive our debtors."

**Task** This week let's look at our own lives and relationships. Is there someone in our life that we feel hurt us and rejected us? What effort can we make to accept them and forgive them? Make a commitment to reach out in some small way this week to that person: a phone call, letter, post card, etc.