

"Moreover, if your brother commits a sin against you, go and show him his fault—but privately, just between the two of you. If he listens to you, you have won back your brother. If he doesn't listen, take one or two others with you so that every accusation can be supported by the testimony of two or three witnesses. If he refuses to hear them, tell the congregation; and if he refuses to listen even to the congregation, treat him as you would a pagan or a tax-collector. Yes! I tell you people that whatever you prohibit on earth will be prohibited in heaven, and whatever you permit on earth will be permitted in heaven. To repeat, I tell you that if two of you here on earth agree about anything people ask, it will be for them from my Father in heaven. For wherever two or three are assembled in my name, I am there with them."

Matthew 18:15-20(CJB)

"When Sin (Offense) Comes Into Our Lives" Pt 4

Sunday March 25, 2018

Subject: We are going to look at the Biblical way of how to handle sin (offense) that happens in our lives by another person.

- A. Take the Initiative
- B. Steps to be taken prior to going to him/her.
 - Remove bitterness and anger
 - Expect most hurts to come from family (natural/spiritual)
 - Correct your own faults before confronting an offender
 - Examine possibilities or motivations, for the offense/sin that was done to us, before vocalizing the fault to the person.
 - 1. Is the offender being used to expose a weakness in my life?
 - 2. Have I wronged them?
 - 3. Is the offender really needing help?

A. Steps for Reconciliation

STEP ONE

Matthew 18:15 (CJB)

- The goal is not to go over every detail of the offense but rather to restore the offender.
- A couple of questions to ask in private with the offender:
 - "Have I done anything to offend you? Or "Let me make sure I understand exactly what happened to me?"

Proverbs 25:7-10 (CJB)

STEP TWO

Matthew 18:16 (CJB)

Biblical foundation and reason for this requirement

- Examples of offenses that church discipline would be involved
1 Corinthians 5:11-13 (CJB)
- The Laws of God dealing with serious crimes
Numbers 35:29-30 (CJB)
Deuteronomy 17:2-7 (CJB)

Note: The need for two or three witnesses emphasizes that the offense must be serious enough to warrant action by the entire fellowship.

STEP THREE

Matthew 18:17 (CJB)

BIBLICAL EXAMPLE OF STEP THREE

1 Corinthians 5:1-6 (CJB)

RESOLUTION

2 Corinthians 2:5-7 (CJB)