

Conflicts in the House of Peace

Matthew 18:15-20 | 24 October 2021

1. There are many conflicts in the world – between countries, within societies, families and even within the House of God.

In Matthew 18:15-20, Jesus gives us four steps to restore sinning believers as He expects His people will struggle with sin and conflict with one another.

The four steps are in the Greek present tense; in the imperative mood – meaning they are commandments.

These are the steps:

Step 1: *“If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you.”*

Step 2: *“But if they will not listen, take one or two others along, so that ‘every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses’.”*

Step 3: *“If they refuse to listen (to the one or two witnesses), tell it to the church.”*

Step 4: *“If they refuse to listen to the church, treat them as you would a pagan or tax-collector.”*

Before going through the steps, discuss why Christians would sin against one another:

- What are the root causes?
- What are the types of sins that could happen?
- What can believers do to minimise the potential to sin against each other?

Our Vision

To be disciples of Jesus Christ

Our Mission

We exist to make disciples who love God, love one another and love the lost



SERMON REFLECTIONS

2. What are the dangers of not resolving the conflicts?
3. Regarding Step 1:
 - What are the obstacles preventing this step to be taken?
 - What are the obstacles preventing this step to resolve the problem?
 - Should these obstacles prevent us from obeying the Lord's commandment?
 - What can we do as a church or DG to make this step easier to take?
4. In his sermon, Pastor Aaron gave three unbiblical ways Christians use to resolve their conflicts (caused by sin) with each other.
 - If you have experienced any of these ways, share the consequences or outcomes.
 - What other unbiblical ways do Christians use to resolve their differences caused by sin?
5. Regarding Step 2:
 - If you are to take this step in your DG, how will you do it?
 - What should the qualities of these two persons be?
 - What should your attitude and prayer be in meeting with this brother/sister who has sinned?
6. Regarding Steps 3 and 4:
 - What are some conditions to consider and some things we can do in implementing Steps 3 and 4?
 - Give suggestions on how we can fulfil Steps 3 and 4 in today's church.

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