

Tell Him His Fault

We have established that we are ministers of the Spirit. Ministers of the Spirit put people in remembrance of who they are. They are experts at ministering the law of liberty. They love others the way that Jesus loved them.

1 Corinthians 2:2 For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified. 4 And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power:

5 That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.

There are many scriptures that seem to say the opposite. One of them is in Matthew 18 where it tells us that if our brother offends us, we need to go to him and confront him with it.

Matthew 18:15 Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother.

16 But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established.

17 And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican.

The letter of the word clearly says that we confront him with his faults, moreover, if he refuses to hear us, we get the whole church involved. If he refuses to hear the church we treat him as a heathen.

2 Corinthians 3:6 Who also hath made us able ministers of the new testament; not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life.

We take a lot of things out of context and that causes us to misunderstand its true implication. Let's begin at the

In verses 1-6 of Matthew 18, one of the disciples asks Jesus who is the greatest in the kingdom. Jesus replies by saying that the kingdom is not about establishing the greatest. Verse 3 says that if you want to enter the kingdom you have to change the way you think and become like a child. You have to humble yourself like a child and you have to receive others in the same manner if you want to be great. If we receive others as a child in the name of Jesus (1 Corinthians 2:2,4,5) we receive Jesus.

If we begin to pass judgment on others, it is dangerous because if we assess others according to their performance in light of the law, not only will they not qualify, but we ourselves will become disqualified because according to the law, all come short of the glory of God. Romans 3:23, Matthew 7:1-2

Evaluating others based on their performance re-enacts the condemnation that comes with the law. Matthew 18:7-9 This chapter is all about how we minister to those who have offended us. Ministering the letter of the law brings death to everyone.

Jesus came to save, not condemn! We have been commissioned to do the same.

**Matthew 18:10 Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you, That in heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in heaven.
11 For the Son of man is come to save that which was lost.**

**AMP 10 Beware that you do not despise or feel scornful toward or think little of one of these little ones, for I tell you that in heaven their angels always are in the presence of and look upon the face of My Father Who is in heaven.
11 For the Son of man came to save [from the penalty of eternal death] that which was lost. 1 Corinthians 2:2,5**

Even the angels see every person with the purpose and power of God in mind. Jesus came to deliver man from the

emphasize this point. The sheep was not just lost, the sheep went astray, or according to Strong's Concordance, the sheep became deceived and "roamed from the truth!" The kingdom is all about rescuing those that are perishing. Matthew 18:14 "Even so, it is not the will of the Father that one of these sheep should perish." The law exposes our weaknesses. The Spirit exposes the love of God and puts people in remembrance of his ability to deliver.

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16 But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established.

17 And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican.

18 Verily I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

Verse 15 begins with the word moreover, which indicates that what is now being said is directly connected to what has already been said.

If someone offends us, we are instructed not to despise [Strong's disesteem, think against] them. We are to receive them as a child. We are to seek after them in the same manner that Jesus sought the lost sheep that went astray.

The scripture clearly says to "tell him his fault!" According to Strong's Concordance, that phrase means to confute. The dictionary definition of confute means "to overwhelm in argument or to refute conclusively.

Words listed as antonyms include: record, support, document evidence, substantiate and identify.

With all of this in mind, it can't mean that we go to the one that has offended us and identify their offense! It means the

**of God. We are to put them in remembrance of who they are. 2
Peter 1:3-9,12**

When we commit offenses against one another, guilt and condemnation set in. Jesus set people free from the condemning evidence that held them captive. We need to do the same for others. If we are unable to restore such a person, the word tells us to get others to help us in the restoration process. If the church is unable to reach the person, we are told to count them as a publican and a heathen. We have taken that to mean that we cut them off from all fellowship. What did Jesus treat publicans and heathens?

Jesus fellowshiped with them. He forgave those that offended him. We have the power to both set people free from their offenses and to hold them captive with their offenses.

Matthew 18:18 Verily I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

19 Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven.

20 For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.

The Holy Spirit connects us to the true things of the kingdom. Jesus set the captives free. He was anointed with the Holy Spirit and did the work of the kingdom. He went about doing good and healing all that were oppressed of the devil. Acts 10:38 Satan wants to hold us captive by putting the focus on the weakness of the flesh. We have been anointed with the Holy Spirit so that we can do the work of the kingdom. Jesus said that He is in the midst of us when we are gathered in His name [in the position of authority that comes with His name.]

John 20:21 Then said Jesus to them again, Peace be unto you: as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you.

22 And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost:

In Matthew 18:15-20, Jesus was instructing his disciples what to do when someone offended them. Peter's question and Jesus' answer in verses 21 and 22 again make it very clear Jesus was not talking about confronting people with their offenses by bringing evidence against them. He was talking about forgiving them.

Matthew 18:21 Then came Peter to him, and said, Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times?

22 Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven.

To further emphasize his point and sum up the chapter, Jesus tells a parable. Matthew 18:23-35. "Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is likened unto a certain king which would take account of his servants." The king had a servant who owed him a great amount. The servant begged for mercy and the king was moved with compassion and forgave that servant. The same servant had a fellow servant who owed him a small amount. The fellow servant begged for mercy, but that plea was not met with compassion. The servant had him thrown into prison until he could pay what he owed. When the king heard this he confronted the servant. I forgave you, and yet you could not forgive others. Therefore, I will not forgive you.

In John 15:12 we are instructed to love one another in the same manner that Jesus has loved us. Luke 6:27-38 tells us that "children of the highest" are kind to the unthankful and to the evil. They are merciful. They bless those that curse them.

When Jesus was crucified, he said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do."

We are instructed to put on the new man which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him.

Colossians 3:10

13 Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye.

14 And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness.

If we begin to pass judgment on and condemn others, then we too will be worthy of guilt and condemnation. Romans 3:23 Passing judgment is like a cancer that infects everyone it comes in contact with, including ourselves.