
THE KING &
HIS Cross

Fully Restored

Matthew 18:15–20

Have you suffered from a relationship broken by sin?

As a church family, we must pursue reconciliation with one another because Christ has reconciled himself to us.

Matthew 18:15–20

1. Christ calls his church to pursue reconciliation to win back those who wander in unrepentant sin. (15–17)

2. Christ gives his church the authority to maintain unity through reconciliation or release. (18–20)

Matthew 18

15 “If your brother sins against you, go tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have won your brother.
16 But if he won’t listen, take one or two others with you, so that by the testimony of two or three witnesses every fact may be established.
17 If he doesn’t pay attention to them, tell the church. If he doesn’t pay attention even to the church, let him be like a Gentile and a tax collector to you.

Our Reformation Heritage

Three essential marks of a faithful church:

1. The preaching of God's Word
2. The administration of the ordinances
3. The practice of church discipline

Matthew 18: Step One

15 “If your brother sins against you, go tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have won your brother.

Matthew 18: Step One

Step 1: Should I go to my brother?

* Love can cover the offense

* Love may require confronting the offense

*The goal is not merely to confront a sinner, but to win back a brother.

Matthew 18: Step Two

16 But if he won’t listen, take one or two others with you, so that by the testimony of two or three witnesses every fact may be established.

Matthew 18: Step Two

Brothers and sisters, if someone is overtaken in any wrongdoing, you who are spiritual, restore such a person with a gentle spirit,, watching out for yourselves so that you also won’t be tempted. Carry one another’s burdens; in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. (Galatians 6:1–2)

Matthew 18: Step Two

“If one member suffers, all the members suffer with it” (1 Cor 12:26).

Matthew 18: Step Three

17 If he doesn’t pay attention to them, tell the church. If he doesn’t pay attention even to the church, let him be like a Gentile and a tax collector to you.

Matthew 18: Step Three

“You’ll recognize them by their fruit” (Matthew 7:16).

“Everyone who remains in him does not sin; everyone who sins has not seen him or known him” (1 John 3:6).

Matthew 18:15–20

1. Christ calls his church to pursue reconciliation to win back those who wander in unrepentant sin. (15–17)

2. Christ gives his church the authority to maintain unity through reconciliation or release. (18–20)

Matthew 18

18 Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will have been
bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will have been
loosed in heaven. 19 Again, truly I tell you, if two of you on earth
agree about any matter that you pray for, it will be done for you by
my Father in heaven. 20 For where two or three are gathered
together in my name, I am there among them.”

The authority of the local church

Through preaching, we proclaim the gospel, declaring God's promise of forgiveness to all who repent and believe in Christ.
Through the ordinances, we publicly identify those who profess faith in Christ and affirm their fellowship with his body.
Through church discipline, we affirm those who walk in repentance and withdraw that affirmation from those who persist in unrepentant sin.

“There is nothing more cruel than a love that refuses to confront sin and leaves someone trapped in it.”

-- Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Personally: Pursue holiness in your own life and reconciliation with those who have sinned against you.

Corporately: As Christ's church, we must love one another enough to confront sin and pursue reconciliation.

Spiritually: Remember that Christ pursued us in our sin and reconciled us to God through his cross.

As a church family, we must never stop pursuing reconciliation with one another because Christ never stopped pursuing us.