

Solving Conflicts Between Brethren

Lesson 2
Relationships With Other
Christians That Might Involve
Sin

Solving Conflicts Between Brethren

- It's inevitable that various types of conflicts will occur between Christians
- To solve them, we must first accurately identify the type of conflict
- Then, we must learn and apply the Scriptural solution the Lord designed to solve the particular conflict
- By doing this, we can live in harmony with one another as the Lord desires

2

Types of Conflicts That Occur Between Brethren

1. Individual Christian liberties
2. Relationships with other Christians that might involve sin
3. Doctrine

3

Relationships With Other Christians That Might Involve Sin

1. Identify the conflict
2. Reject sinful solutions
3. Apply Scriptural solutions

4

Relationships With Other Christians That Might Involve Sin

- These are conflicts where we mistreat each other in some way or someone believes they have been mistreated
- Therefore, they are private Christian relationships that may involve sinful behavior that no one knows about except the Christians involved
- Unless solved, they can evolve into public strife destroying the unity of a local church

5

Relationships With Other Christians That Might Involve Sin

- But the New Testament reveals specific steps to solve these conflicts
- The local church should not be involved unless the conflict cannot be solved by individual saints
- Therefore, no outside local church should be involved in solving these conflicts
- Just like today, these conflicts also occurred in the First century church

6

Relationships With Other Christians That Might Involve Sin

Php 4:1 Therefore, my beloved brethren whom I long to see, my joy and crown, in this way stand firm in the Lord, my beloved.

Php 4:2 I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to live in harmony in the Lord.

7

Relationships With Other Christians That Might Involve Sin

Php 4:3 Indeed, true companion, I ask you also to help these women who have shared my struggle in *the cause of* the gospel, together with Clement also and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the book of life.

8

Ignore Them Resulting In Strife In The Local Church

Pro 6:16 There are six things which the LORD hates, Yes, seven which are an abomination to Him:

Pro 6:17 Haughty eyes, a lying tongue, And hands that shed innocent blood,

Pro 6:18 A heart that devises wicked plans, Feet that run rapidly to evil,

Pro 6:19 A false witness *who* utters lies, And one who spreads strife among brothers.

9

Ignore Them Resulting In Strife In The Local Church

Pro 30:33 For the churning of milk produces butter, And pressing the nose brings forth blood; So the churning of anger produces strife.

2Co 12:20 For I am afraid that perhaps when I come I may find you to be not what I wish and may be found by you to be not what you wish; that perhaps *there will be* strife, jealousy, angry tempers, disputes, slanders, gossip, arrogance, disturbances;

10

Ignore Them Resulting In Strife In The Local Church

2Co 12:21 I am afraid that when I come again my God may humiliate me before you, and I may mourn over many of those who have sinned in the past and not repented of the impurity, immorality and sensuality which they have practiced.

11

Sinfully Hold Bitter Grudges

Eph 4:31 Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice.

Eph 4:32 Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.

12

Sinfully Hold Bitter Grudges

2Ti 3:2 For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy, 2Ti 3:3 unloving, irreconcilable, malicious gossips, without self-control, brutal, haters of good,

13

Sinfully Hold Bitter Grudges

2Ti 3:4 treacherous, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, 2Ti 3:5 holding to a form of godliness, although they have denied its power; Avoid such men as these.

14

Speak With Others Before Going To The One Who Might Have Sinned

Pro 25:23 The north wind brings forth rain, And a backbiting tongue, an angry countenance.

Pro 26:17 *Like* one who takes a dog by the ears Is he who passes by *and* meddles with strife not belonging to him.

15

Speak With Others Before Going To The One Who Might Have Sinned

1Pe 4:15 Make sure that none of you suffers as a murderer, or thief, or evildoer, or a troublesome meddler;

1Pe 4:16 but if *anyone suffers* as a Christian, he is not to be ashamed, but is to glorify God in this name.

16

Speak With Others Before Going To The One Who Might Have Sinned

Mat 18:15 "If your brother sins, go and show him his fault in private; if he listens to you, you have won your brother.

Mat 18:16 "But if he does not listen *to you*, take one or two more with you, so that BY THE MOUTH OF TWO OR THREE WITNESSES EVERY FACT MAY BE CONFIRMED.

17

Speak With Others Before Going To The One Who Might Have Sinned

Mat 18:17 "If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector.

18

Going With Sinful Anger Toward The Offending Person

Pro 14:29 He who is slow to anger has great understanding, But he who is quick-tempered exalts folly.

Pro 15:1 A gentle answer turns away wrath, But a harsh word stirs up anger.

Pro 15:18 A hot-tempered man stirs up strife, But the slow to anger calms a dispute.

19

Going With Sinful Anger Toward The Offending Person

Pro 16:32 He who is slow to anger is better than the mighty, And he who rules his spirit, than he who captures a city.

Pro 29:22 An angry man stirs up strife, And a hot-tempered man abounds in transgression.

20

Going With Sinful Anger Toward The Offending Person

Ecc 7:8 The end of a matter is better than its beginning; Patience of spirit is better than haughtiness of spirit.

Ecc 7:9 Do not be eager in your heart to be angry, For anger resides in the bosom of fools.

21

Going With Sinful Anger Toward The Offending Person

Jas 1:19 *This* you know, my beloved brethren. But everyone must be quick to hear, slow to speak *and* slow to anger;

Jas 1:20 for the anger of man does not achieve the righteousness of God.

Jas 1:21 Therefore, putting aside all filthiness and *all* that remains of wickedness, in humility receive the word implanted, which is able to save your souls.

22

Go Before Worldly Courts To Settle Conflicts

1Co 6:1 Does any one of you, when he has a case against his neighbor, dare to go to law before the unrighteous and not before the saints?

1Co 6:2 Or do you not know that the saints will judge the world? If the world is judged by you, are you not competent *to constitute* the smallest law courts?

23

Go Before Worldly Courts To Settle Conflicts

1Co 6:3 Do you not know that we will judge angels? How much more matters of this life?

1Co 6:4 So if you have law courts dealing with matters of this life, do you appoint them as judges who are of no account in the church?

24

Go Before Worldly Courts To Settle Conflicts

1Co 6:5 I say *this* to your shame. *Is it* so, *that* there is not among you one wise man who will be able to decide between his brethren,

1Co 6:6 but brother goes to law with brother, and that before unbelievers?

25

Go Before Worldly Courts To Settle Conflicts

1Co 6:7 Actually, then, it is already a defeat for you, that you have lawsuits with one another. Why not rather be wronged? Why not rather be defrauded?

1Co 6:8 On the contrary, you yourselves wrong and defraud. *You do* this even to *your* brethren.

26

Reject Sinful Solutions

1. Ignore them resulting in strife in the local church
2. Sinfully hold bitter grudges
3. Speak with others before going to the one who might have sinned
4. Going with sinful anger toward the offending person
5. Go before worldly courts to settle conflicts

27

Relationships With Other Christians That Might Involve Sin

1. Identify the conflict
2. Reject sinful solutions
3. Apply Scriptural solutions

28

Solving Conflicts Between Brethren

- It's inevitable that various types of conflicts will occur between Christians
- To solve them, we must first accurately identify the type of conflict
- Then, we must learn and apply the Scriptural solution the Lord designed to solve the particular conflict
- By doing this, we can live in harmony with one another as the Lord desires

29

Types of Conflicts That Occur Between Brethren

1. Individual Christian liberties
2. Relationships with other Christians that might involve sin
3. Doctrine

30

Relationships With Other Christians That Might Involve Sin

1. Identify the conflict
2. Reject sinful solutions
3. Apply Scriptural solutions

31

Relationships With Other Christians That Might Involve Sin

- These are conflicts where we mistreat each other in some way or someone believes they have been mistreated
- Therefore, they are private Christian relationships that may involve sinful behavior that no one knows about except the Christians involved
- Unless solved, they can evolve into public strife destroying the unity of a local church

32

Relationships With Other Christians That Might Involve Sin

- But the New Testament reveals specific steps to solve these conflicts
- The local church should not be involved unless the conflict cannot be solved by individual saints
- Therefore, no outside local church should be involved in solving these conflicts
- Just like today, these conflicts also occurred in the First century church

33

Reject Sinful Solutions

1. Ignore them resulting in strife in the local church
2. Sinfully hold bitter grudges
3. Speak with others before going to the one who might have sinned
4. Going with sinful anger toward the offending person
5. Go before worldly courts to settle conflicts

34

Humbly And Quickly Go To The One Who You Might Have Sinned Against

Mat 5:21 "You have heard that the ancients were told, 'YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT MURDER' and 'Whoever commits murder shall be liable to the court.'

35

Humbly And Quickly Go To The One Who You Might Have Sinned Against

Mat 5:22 "But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother shall be guilty before the court; and whoever says to his brother, 'You good-for-nothing,' shall be guilty before the supreme court; and whoever says, 'You fool,' shall be guilty *enough to go* into the fiery hell.

36

Humbly And Quickly Go To The One Who
You Might Have Sinned Against

Mat 5:23 "Therefore if you are presenting your offering at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you,

Mat 5:24 leave your offering there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and present your offering.

37

Humbly And Quickly Go To The One Who
You Might Have Sinned Against

Mat 5:25 "Make friends quickly with your opponent at law while you are with him on the way, so that your opponent may not hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the officer, and you be thrown into prison.

Mat 5:26 "Truly I say to you, you will not come out of there until you have paid up the last cent.

38

Humbly And Quickly Go To The One Who
Might Have Sinned Against You

Mat 18:15 "If your brother sins, go and show him his fault in private; if he listens to you, you have won your brother.

39

Humbly And Quickly Go To The One Who
Might Have Sinned Against You

Mat 18:2 And He called a child to Himself and set him before them,

Mat 18:3 and said, "Truly I say to you, unless you are converted and become like children, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven.

Mat 18:4 "Whoever then humbles himself as this child, he is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

40

Humbly And Quickly Go To The One Who
Might Have Sinned Against You

Mar 3:4 And He *said to them, "Is it lawful to do good or to do harm on the Sabbath, to save a life or to kill?" But they kept silent.

Mar 3:5 After looking around at them with anger, grieved at their hardness of heart, He *said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." And he stretched it out, and his hand was restored.

41

Humbly And Quickly Go To The One Who
Might Have Sinned Against You

Eph 4:26 BE ANGRY, AND yet DO NOT SIN; do not let the sun go down on your anger,

Eph 4:27 and do not give the devil an opportunity.

42

Humbly And Quickly Go To The One Who Might Have Sinned Against You

Gal 6:1 Brethren, even if anyone is caught in any trespass, you who are spiritual, restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness; *each one* looking to yourself, so that you too will not be tempted.

43

Take One Or Two Witnesses With You To Verify And Settle The Matter

Mat 18:15 "If your brother sins, go and show him his fault in private; if he listens to you, you have won your brother.

Mat 18:16 "But if he does not listen *to you*, take one or two more with you, so that BY THE MOUTH OF TWO OR THREE WITNESSES EVERY FACT MAY BE CONFIRMED.

44

Take One Or Two Witnesses With You To Verify And Settle The Matter

Deu 19:15 "A single witness shall not rise up against a man on account of any iniquity or any sin which he has committed; on the evidence of two or three witnesses a matter shall be confirmed.

2Co 13:1 This is the third time I am coming to you. EVERY FACT IS TO BE CONFIRMED BY THE TESTIMONY OF TWO OR THREE WITNESSES.

45

If Still Unsettled Bring It Before The Local Church

Mat 18:17 "If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector.

1Co 6:5 I say *this* to your shame. *Is it so, that* there is not among you one wise man who will be able to decide between his brethren,

46

We Must Be Repenting Forgiving And Loving People

Luk 17:3 "Be on your guard! If your brother sins, rebuke him; and if he repents, forgive him.

Luk 17:4 "And if he sins against you seven times a day, and returns to you seven times, saying, 'I repent,' forgive him."

47

We Must Be Repenting Forgiving And Loving People

2Co 7:9 I now rejoice, not that you were made sorrowful, but that you were made sorrowful to *the point of* repentance; for you were made sorrowful according to *the will of* God, so that you might not suffer loss in anything through us.

2Co 7:10 For the sorrow that is according to *the will of* God produces a repentance without regret, *leading* to salvation, but the sorrow of the world produces death.

48

We Must Be Repenting Forgiving And Loving People

Mat 21:28 "But what do you think? A man had two sons, and he came to the first and said, 'Son, go work today in the vineyard.'

Mat 21:29 "And he answered, 'I will not'; but afterward he regretted it and went.

Mat 21:30 "The man came to the second and said the same thing; and he answered, 'I *will*, sir'; but he did not go.

49

We Must Be Repenting Forgiving And Loving People

Mat 21:31 "Which of the two did the will of his father?" They *said, "The first." Jesus *said to them, "Truly I say to you that the tax collectors and prostitutes will get into the kingdom of God before you.

50

We Must Be Repenting Forgiving And Loving People

Mat 21:32 "For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him; but the tax collectors and prostitutes did believe him; and you, seeing *this*, did not even feel remorse afterward so as to believe him.

51

We Must Be Repenting Forgiving And Loving People

Mat 18:21 Then Peter came and said to Him, "Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me and I forgive him? Up to seven times?"

Mat 18:22 Jesus *said to him, "I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven.

Mat 18:23 "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. 52

We Must Be Repenting Forgiving And Loving People

Mat 18:24 "When he had begun to settle *them*, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him.

Mat 18:25 "But since he did not have *the means* to repay, his lord commanded him to be sold, along with his wife and children and all that he had, and repayment to be made.

53

We Must Be Repenting Forgiving And Loving People

Mat 18:26 "So the slave fell *to the ground* and prostrated himself before him, saying, 'Have patience with me and I will repay you everything.'

Mat 18:27 "And the lord of that slave felt compassion and released him and forgave him the debt.

54

We Must Be Repenting Forgiving And Loving People

Mat 18:28 "But that slave went out and found one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and he seized him and *began* to choke *him*, saying, 'Pay back what you owe.'

Mat 18:29 "So his fellow slave fell *to the ground* and *began* to plead with him, saying, 'Have patience with me and I will repay you.'

55

We Must Be Repenting Forgiving And Loving People

Mat 18:30 "But he was unwilling and went and threw him in prison until he should pay back what was owed.

Mat 18:31 "So when his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were deeply grieved and came and reported to their lord all that had happened.

56

We Must Be Repenting Forgiving And Loving People

Mat 18:32 "Then summoning him, his lord **said* to him, 'You wicked slave, I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me.

Mat 18:33 'Should you not also have had mercy on your fellow slave, in the same way that I had mercy on you?'

57

We Must Be Repenting Forgiving And Loving People

Mat 18:34 "And his lord, moved with anger, handed him over to the torturers until he should repay all that was owed him.

Mat 18:35 "My heavenly Father will also do the same to you, if each of you does not forgive his brother from your heart."

1Co 6:7 Actually, then, it is already a defeat for you, that you have lawsuits with one another. Why not rather be wronged? Why not rather be defrauded?

58

Apply Scriptural Solutions

1. Humbly and quickly go to the one who you might have sinned against
2. Humbly and quickly go to the one who might have sinned against you
3. Take one or two witnesses with you to verify and settle the matter
4. If still unsettled bring it before the local church
5. We must be repenting forgiving and loving people

59

Relationships With Other Christians That Might Involve Sin

1. Identify the conflict
2. Reject sinful solutions
3. Apply Scriptural solutions

60

Types of Conflicts That Occur Between Brethren

1. Individual Christian liberties
2. Relationships with other Christians that might involve sin
3. Doctrine