

May 5, 2024

Where 2 or 3 are Gathered

Matthew 18:15-35

One of the most difficult tasks of the church, or any believer, is to confront another believer in sin. Though difficult, Jesus expects His church to confront a sinning believer. The process outlined in Matthew 18 is designed to restore the impenitent sinner. When the church engages in this process Jesus promises His presence **with** His church.

Additional Verses:

Deuteronomy 19:15 1 Corinthians 5:1-2 Ephesians 4:2
Colossians 1:17, 3:13 1 John 1:9

Outline:

1. The process of forgiving one another.

- Private plea

- With witnesses

- Church counsel

- Congregation action

2. The purpose is restoration.

3. The promise of Jesus during the process.

- Authority

- Agreement

- Presence

Study Questions:

1. Why is discipline difficult? Why should it not be as difficult for believers?

2. Why are there four different steps? Where does scripture hope that the process stops? Why this step?

3. Why is the ultimate goal restoration? How does the parable in Matthew 18:21-35 demonstrate this?

4. What is the promise of Matthew 18:20? Why is this promise important to church discipline?

5. How is the Holy Spirit leading you to respond to God today?