

If Your Brother Sins Against You

Matthew 18:15-35

Jesus continued his discussion with his twelve disciples concerning pride but expanded the issue slightly. What do you do if your brother or sister sins against you?

What Should You Do If Your Brother or Sister Sins Against You?

Matthew 18:15–20 (ESV)

¹⁵ "If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. ¹⁶ But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. 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 Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹ Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. ²⁰ For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them."

Jesus lays out the process for believers to follow when another believer has sinned against them.

- ◇ First, if you can overlook the offense, do so.

Proverbs 19:10 (ESV)

¹⁰ *It is not fitting for a fool to live in luxury, much less for a slave to rule over princes.*

- ◇ If the sin cannot be overlooked, go to the offending party first.
- ◇ If the individual does not respond, they must once again be confronted—this time with one or two additional people.
- ◇ If they still cannot be persuaded, then the issue is to be taken to the church.
- ◇ Finally, if having the whole weight of the church against them does not convince the offender to humble themselves and repent, the church is to break fellowship with the offender.

Part 1.	The Coming of the King
Part 2.	The Authentication of the King
Part 3.	The Controversy over the King
Part 4.	The Training of the Twelve by the King
→	If Your Brother Sins Against You
Part 5.	The Opposition to the King:
Part 6.	The Preparation of the Disciples by the King
Part 7.	The Official Presentation of the King
Part 8.	The Preparation for the Death of the King
Part 9.	The Trial of the King
Part 10.	The Death of the King
Part 11.	The Resurrection and the Ascension of the King
Part 12.	The Sequels

How Often Are You To Forgive Your Brother or Sister?

Matthew 18:21–22 (ESV)

²¹ Then Peter came up and said to him, “Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?” ²² Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you seven times, but seventy-seven times.

An Illustration and A Warning

Matthew 18:23–35 (ESV)

²³ “Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴ When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. ²⁵ And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. ²⁶ So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ ²⁷ And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸ But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, ‘Pay what you owe.’ ²⁹ So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ ³⁰ He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. ³¹ When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. ³² Then his master summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³ And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?’ ³⁴ And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. ³⁵ So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart.”

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Voice of the Martyrs - This month's action pack items are bath towels, washcloths, and antiseptic wipes.

Ramona Pregnancy Care Clinic - The Adopt a Mom Christmas tree is here. Sign up on the patio or at the RPCC office.

Operation Christmas Child - A HUGE 'Thank You' to everyone who gave, packed, and helped with shoeboxes this year!

Children's Ministry - Volunteers are still needed in the nursery and toddlers. Contact Billie Phipps for more information, billie@gccramona.com.