

# GRADUATE STUDIES IN CHURCH DISCIPLINE

## COURSE 3: LEVELING UP (Matthew 18:16)

March 8, 2026

### A LEVEL-UP CONFRONTATION IS NECESSARY WHEN:

<sup>16</sup> "But if he will not listen..." Matthew 18:16 (BSB)

<sup>15</sup> "If your brother sins..." Matthew 18:15 (BSB)

- TEST #1: A BELIEVER \_\_\_\_\_.
- TEST #2: THE SINNER \_\_\_\_\_ TO \_\_\_\_\_ AFTER THE PRIOR CONFRONTATION.

### HOW TO DO A LEVEL-UP CONFRONTATION:

<sup>16</sup> "...take one or two others along so that 'every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.'" Matthew 18:16 (BSB)

- STEP 1: \_\_\_\_\_ THE \_\_\_\_\_ OF \_\_\_\_\_ TO THE LEVEL-UP CONFRONTATION.
  - WHY ADD WITNESSES?
    - IT ADDS \_\_\_\_\_ TO ALL INVOLVED.
  - WHO SELECTS THE WITNESSES?
    - GENERALLY, SELECTED BY THE \_\_\_\_\_
    - ...OR THE \_\_\_\_\_ AND \_\_\_\_\_ TOGETHER.
  - HOW ARE THE WITNESSES SELECTED?
    - \_\_\_\_\_ AND \_\_\_\_\_ INFORM THE SELECTION.
    - THE RIGHT KIND OF WITNESSES:

<sup>20</sup> "...those who persist in sin should be rebuked..."<sup>21</sup> "I solemnly charge you before God and Christ Jesus...to maintain these principles without bias, and to do nothing out of partiality."

1 Timothy 5:20-21 (BSB)

- \_\_\_\_\_ AND \_\_\_\_\_
- <sup>1</sup> "Brothers, if someone is caught in a trespass, you who are spiritual should restore him with a spirit of gentleness." Galatians 6:1 (BSB)

- \_\_\_\_\_ AND  
\_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ OF THE \_\_\_\_\_
- RECOGNIZED \_\_\_\_\_ FOR \_\_\_\_\_ PARTIES
- MAY ALIGN WITH OTHER FACTORS (E.G. \_\_\_\_\_ OR \_\_\_\_\_).

- STEP 2: ALL PARTIES GATHER TO “WITNESS” THE  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, AND  
\_\_\_\_\_.

<sup>15</sup> “A lone witness is not sufficient to establish any wrongdoing or sin against a man, regardless of what offense he may have committed. A matter must be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.” Deuteronomy 19:15 (BSB)

- PREVENTS A PERSON FROM BEING \_\_\_\_\_ DUE TO A \_\_\_\_\_, A \_\_\_\_\_, OR A MOMENT OF \_\_\_\_\_.
- THERE ARE \_\_\_\_\_ FOR A \_\_\_\_\_ ACCUSERS.

<sup>18</sup> “... if the witness is proven to be a liar who has falsely accused his brother, <sup>19</sup>you must do to him as he intended to do to his brother.... <sup>20</sup>Then the rest of the people will hear and be afraid, and they will never again do anything so evil among you.” Deuteronomy 19:18-20 (BSB)

- STEP 3: A \_\_\_\_\_ IS \_\_\_\_\_.

**BOTTOM LINE:**

\_\_\_\_\_ LEVEL-UP \_\_\_\_\_.

**NEXT STEPS**

- **FAMILY STORY NIGHT**
  - Friday March 13<sup>th</sup>. A live action reading of several of Aesop’s fables. Bring the kids and grandkids and enjoy a special night out together.
- **BAPTISM INTERVIEW SIGNUPS**
  - Baptism Celebration is on March 29<sup>th</sup>. Signups for baptism interviews available now.