



SERMON STUDY GUIDE

“Matthew 18:15-20” on March 25/28, 2021

CONNECT

How did last week's passage we read/discussed from Matthew 18:10-14 affect your week?

DISCOVER: MATTHEW 18:15-20

What did the passage say (in your own words) or did you take away from the sermon this week?

How does this passage or did the sermon point you to Jesus (teach us about Jesus)?

Did you find anything challenging about this passage (words you didn't understand, phrases that didn't make sense, etc.)?

Matthew 18:15-20 describes Jesus' teaching on restoring broken relationships with God and with fellow believers. The passage describes steps to take in that restoration, involving confrontation, disciplining in love, and evangelizing those who have strayed from the 'flock.'

Can you describe a broken relationship in your life that you are avoiding seeking restoration because you fear confrontation or failure?

- What would motivate you to restore that relationship? How could you prepare to take the first step?
- When you examine your motives, do you find you are relying more on your feelings or on Jesus' teaching in this passage to determine your response?
- What could God be asking you to do in this situation, and how can you seek strength and encouragement from Him?
- Where might you be fighting God rather than yielding to Him in your willingness to take the steps to restore the relationship?

Describe a situation in which a broken relationship WAS restored because you or someone else was willing to step forward in love as Jesus taught in this passage.

- How did that experience affect you, encourage you, or change you?
- How could this experience and God's Word impact your prayers and equip you to seek out other opportunities to restore broken relationships in your life?
- Discuss what 'accountability' means to you in your Christian fellowship of believers.

Sometimes seeking restoration becomes difficult with someone who is resistant or who has 'strayed from the flock' of believers. Jesus teaches that we are to evangelize that person rather than abandon him/her.

- What steps can you take to lovingly engage that person who does not know Jesus – to love them into submission?
- Consider who in your fellowship of believers you might call upon to take the 3rd step in Jesus' teaching – a 'group intervention'; what qualities would you seek out in those persons?
- Who needs you to love, pray for, and lead them to Jesus because of broken relationships?

RESPOND

- How does this passage encourage you, challenge you, or change you in your efforts to become more like Jesus?
- What is one thing you learned about yourself from God's Word? How will you respond in obedience this week?
- Who is someone you can have a conversation with about what Jesus is doing in your life or invite to join you at a CU Church gathering.

PRAY

Pray for each other and spend time praising God. Pray that he will show you how to better love God and love people.



CHURCH

LOVE GOD, LOVE PEOPLE

SERMON STUDY GUIDE CONT.

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