

February 22 & 23, 2020



STORIES OF THE KING.

Should we be minding our own business?

1. Paul says it's our business to confront insiders.

1 Corinthians 5:1-2 *"¹ It is actually reported that there is sexual immorality among you, and of a kind that even pagans do not tolerate: A man is sleeping with his father's wife. ² And you are proud! Shouldn't you rather have gone into mourning and have put out of your fellowship the man who has been doing this?"*

Reason: The continual and unrepentant immoral behavior of a few individuals in the church can spread to the rest of the church.

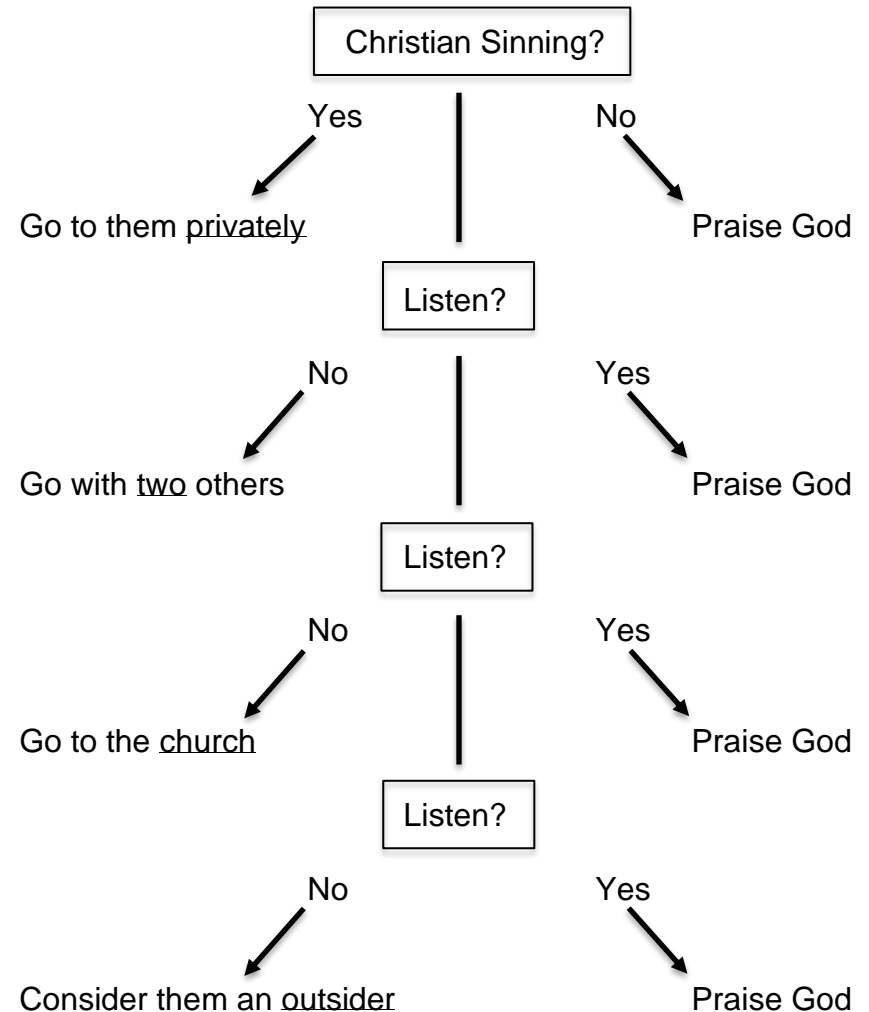
2. Paul says it's NOT our business to confront outsiders.

1 Corinthians 5:12 *"¹² What business is it of mine to judge those outside the church? Are you not to judge those inside?"*

Reason: Outsiders of the Christian faith have not signed up to follow Christ.

3. Jesus says it's our business to confront insiders ...and even tells us how!

Matthew 18:15-17 *"¹⁵ If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over. ¹⁶ But if they will not listen, take one or two others along, so that 'every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.' ¹⁷ If they still refuse to listen, tell it to the church; and if they refuse to listen even to the church, treat them as you would a pagan or a tax collector."*



Important Observations

- The posture of confrontation is love!
 - The point of confrontation is repentance!
 - The persistence of confrontation is revealing!
4. Jesus says it's our business to confront insiders ...and even tells us how much!

Matthew 18:21-22 “²¹Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, “Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?” ²²Jesus answered, “I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.”

Parable of the Unforgiving Servant

- The Master settles accounts with his servant.
- The Servant begs for mercy for his enormous debt.
- The Master cancels the Servant's debt.
- The Servant demands payment from a Debtor.
- The Master hears of the Unforgiving Servant.
- The Master judges that Servant for his lack of mercy.

Matthew 18:32-35 “³² Then the master called the servant in. ‘You wicked servant,’ he said, ‘I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. ³³ Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?’ ³⁴ In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay

back all he owed. ³⁵ “This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

Main Point:

Our mercy to others is to be without limit, just as Christ's mercy is to us.

Closing Thoughts

1. Quit minding your own business by:
 - Loving the person
 - Releasing the debt
 - Restoring the relationship
2. In order to be persuasive, don't be abrasive!