

Restoration Not Revenge

Matthew #120

Matthew 18:15-20

If your brother sins against you - Go and tell (or show)

The first command (first step in reconciliation) is to go “present imperative” calling for this to continually be the first step, and frankly a step that requires the goer to go Spirit filled or in dependence on the Holy Spirit.

The second command is to tell or show him his fault, this command in the aorist imperative, giving the sense of *Just do it!* - “in private”

Galatians 5:1-5

If he listens to you, you have gained your brother –

Listens to you implies a face-to-face encounter, not a text message or email.

The idea of gained or won is not winning like winning an argument... You want to approach this delicate matter with the goal of restoration (equates with winning the brother)

Often, it seems, this is not done,

- we believe that our relationship with the Lord is personal and private
- the church is viewed as nothing more than a loose affiliation of nice people who like Jesus

Because of a wrong view, low view of the church, church discipline, looks almost petty, definitely controlling, and to some even un-loving.

Proverbs 19:11 and 1 Peter 4:7-8