



# Christians In Conflict

BSLC - BIBLE CLASS - APRIL 2021

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*Matthew 18:12-17:* <sup>12</sup> “What do you think? If a man owns a hundred sheep, and one of them wanders away, will he not leave the ninety-nine on the hills and go to look for the one that wandered off? <sup>13</sup> And if he finds it, truly I tell you, he is happier about that one sheep than about the ninety-nine that did not wander off. <sup>14</sup> In the same way your Father in heaven is not willing that any of these little ones should perish.

### **Dealing With Sin in the Church**

<sup>15</sup> “If your brother or sister <sup>[a]</sup> sins, <sup>[b]</sup> go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over. <sup>16</sup> 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.’ <sup>[c]</sup> <sup>17</sup> 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.

HOW DOES THE PARABLE OF THE WANDERING SHEEP HELP US UNDERSTAND JESUS’ STRATEGY TOWARD A BROTHER OR SISTER WHO SINS?

1)

2)

3)

LIST THE STEPS IN JESUS' PLAN OF "IF YOUR BROTHER SINS AGAINST YOU" PRINCIPLE.

1)

2)

WHAT ARE THE TWO PRIMARY ATTITUDES WE SHOULD HAVE  
GOING FORWARD WITH OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS.

## 2.2 How We Respond to Conflict



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HOW WOULD YOU DEAL WITH THE CONFLICT THAT COMES WITH PEOPLE THAT AREN'T CHRISTIANS?

<sup>3</sup> Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph! Is my father still living?” But his brothers were not able to answer him, because they were terrified at his presence.

<sup>4</sup> Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come close to me.” When they had done so, he said, “I am your brother Joseph, the one you sold into Egypt! <sup>5</sup> And now, do not be distressed and do not be angry with yourselves for selling me here, because it was to save lives that God sent me ahead of you. <sup>6</sup> For two years now there has been famine in the land, and for the next five years there will be no plowing and reaping. <sup>7</sup> But God sent me ahead of you to preserve for you a remnant on earth and to save your lives by a great deliverance.<sup>[a]</sup>

<sup>8</sup> “So then, it was not you who sent me here, but God. He made me father to Pharaoh, lord of his entire household and ruler of all Egypt.

JOSEPH FORGAVE HIS BROTHERS. DID HIS FORGIVENESS HAVE ANY STRINGS ATTACHED?

### **Nathan Rebukes David**

<sup>12</sup> The LORD sent Nathan to David. When he came to him, he said, “There were two men in a certain town, one rich and the other poor. <sup>2</sup> The rich man had a very large number of sheep and cattle, <sup>3</sup> but the poor man had nothing except one little ewe lamb he had bought. He raised it, and it grew up with him and his children. It shared his food, drank from his cup and even slept in his arms. It was like a daughter to him.

<sup>4</sup> “Now a traveler came to the rich man, but the rich man refrained from taking one of his own sheep or cattle to prepare a meal for the traveler who had come to him. Instead, he took the ewe lamb that belonged to the poor man and prepared it for the one who had come to him.”

<sup>5</sup> David burned with anger against the man and said to Nathan, “As surely as the LORD lives, the man who did this must die! <sup>6</sup> He must pay for that lamb four times over, because he did such a thing and had no pity.”

<sup>7</sup> Then Nathan said to David, “You are the man! This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: ‘I anointed you king over Israel, and I delivered you from the hand of Saul. <sup>8</sup> I gave your master’s house to you, and your master’s wives into your arms. I gave you all Israel and Judah. And if all this had been too little, I would have given you even more. <sup>9</sup> Why did you despise the word of the LORD by doing what is evil in his eyes? You struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and took his wife to be your own. You killed him with the sword of the Ammonites. <sup>10</sup> Now, therefore, the sword will never depart from your house, because you despised me and took the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your own.’

<sup>11</sup> “This is what the LORD says: ‘Out of your own household I am going to bring calamity on you. Before your very eyes I will take your wives and give them to one who is close to you, and he will sleep with your wives in broad daylight. <sup>12</sup> You did it in secret, but I will do this thing in broad daylight before all Israel.’”

<sup>13</sup> Then David said to Nathan, “I have sinned against the LORD.”

Nathan replied, “The LORD has taken away your sin. You are not going to die. <sup>14</sup> But because by doing this you have shown utter contempt for <sup>[a]</sup> the LORD, the son born to you will die.”

WITH WHOM WAS DAVID IN CONFLICT, AND WHAT WAS THE  
CAUSE OF THE CONFLICT?

*1) What's the difference between the two types of sins?*

*2) How would you approach each type differently?*

*3) What type sin was David's?*

SINS OF CONSCIENCE

SINS OF IGNORANCE

*Dear Heavenly Father, our great assurance, our heart's true rest, we praise you you today for placing the promise of forgiveness into the mouths of our pastors and my fellow Christians. When we want to know our sins are taken away, we don't need some ladder or telephone line up to heaven. Any Christian can tell us, and it's as sure as hearing your own voice through a hole in the sky, as sure as the thunder-peal pronouncements from Mount Sinai, as sure as if we stood under Christ's cross and heard Him say, "I do this for you." You are so kind, so considerate of my doubt-prone mind. AMEN*

**A CLOSING PRAYER: PRAISE GOD FOR GIVING HUMAN BEINGS  
THE AUTHORITY TO FORGIVE SINS**