

# WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT RECONCILIATION

## I. HOW CAN I KEEP FROM BEING HURT WHEN SOMEONE OFFENDS ME?

**THE BIBLE SAYS:** PSA 119:165

**FROM THIS WE LEARN:**

1. The more we love God's Word, the more we love, understand, and forgive those around us.
2. Stay in god's word—study it and memorize it.
3. View your critics as human, mistaken—I too am human- broken.
4. If your critic has not been where you have been -- allow that he has not been privileged to know what you know.
5. Look to see if there is a grain of truth in the criticism—make it benefit.
6. Do not retaliate—let god be your avenger.
7. Stay your course. Do not get sidetracked by criticism.

## II. WHAT IS THE BEST COURSE OF ACTION IF OFFENDED BY SOMEONE ELSE?

**THE BIBLE SAYS:** MATT 6:14; 18:21-22 EPH 4:32 COL 3:13

**FROM THIS WE LEARN:**

1. To be forgiven, you must grant forgiveness-both as to quantity and quality of our sins. Matt 6:14
2. Forgive your brother continuously. Matt 18:21-22 Eph 4:32
3. Forgive because it is Christ-like. Col 3:13

## III. WHAT IF I CAN'T FORGET IT?

**THE BIBLE SAYS:** MATT 18:15-17

**FROM THIS WE LEARN:**

1. Best to forgive and forget.
2. If can't, go to him alone with the goal of restoring the relationship.
3. If that doesn't work, take others with you (two to establish the truth). Purpose is to restore relationship.
4. If doesn't work, bring before the church.
5. If that doesn't work, treat him as a heathen—non-Christian
6. Note--- it your is responsibility to make the first move.

## IV. WHAT IF SOMEONE IS OFFENDED AT YOU?

**THE BIBLE SAYS:** MATT 5:23-26

**FROM THIS WE LEARN:**

1. Your responsibility to go to them. Purpose is for restoration
2. It is always your responsibility to make the 1<sup>st</sup> move.
3. Be willing to agree with your adversary—try to see his point of view—it will keep the matter from escalating. Vs 25

## V. HOW DO WE KEEP OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHERS?

**THE BIBLE SAYS:** LK 17:3-4 GAL 6:1 ROM 12:15-18; 12:19-21; 16:17-18

**FROM THIS WE LEARN:**

1. When offenses come, explain to your brother. If he repents, forgive and drop it. Lk 17:3-4
2. When wrong is being produced, restore gently and lovingly. Gal :1
3. Do not get drug into their sin. Gal 6:1
4. Share life with them as genuine, caring friend. Rom 12:15
5. Be humble & real toward others. Rom 12:16
6. Do not get into an exchange of bitterness. Rom 12:17-18
7. Overcome evil with good. Rom 12:19-21
8. Watch others who seek to divide you from each others. Rom 16:17-18

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