

Do I Confront Another or Not?

Am I part of the problem?

- Did I commit an offense against someone else? (See *Matthew 5:21-26*). Be ready to make amends:
 - face-to-face
 - w/o delays of any kind
 - as a prerequisite to worship
- Do I know of a sin in someone else that is the direct cause of reproach on the name of Christ? (See *1 Sam. 2:22*).
 - Is it public knowledge?
 - Is it a *Biblical* offense to others?
 - Does it destroy the ability of others to worship God?
 - This is NOT...
 - ❖ “My feelings got hurt”
 - ❖ “This violates *my* conscience”
 - ❖ An excuse for over-sensitivity to others’ sins.
- Was I the object of the sin? (Assumes you have a *legitimate, Biblical* complaint against another because of their sinful action committed directly toward you.)
 - *Mark 11:25*
 - ❖ I can forgive *and forget* without confronting them.
 - ❖ Issue does not affect my spiritual walk.
 - ❖ Pr. 25:21-22, Rom.12:17 ff., Mt.5:43-48
 - *Matthew 18:15 & Luke 17:1-4*
 - ❖ The sin impedes my spiritual life. It is a stumbling block.
 - ❖ From Luke 17 - Expect it!
 - ❖ Luke 17 - Beware, so that you deal with it properly. (Privately and without revenge. See Mt. 18:15, Prov. 25:9, Prov. 24:29).
 - ❖ “Rebuke” has root idea of valuation. It means to place a standard upon them, to measure them. That is, bring them to the measurement of the Word. If you cannot point out clearly from the Word where they are wrong, you cannot rebuke them. If you cannot rebuke them, you must deal with yourself with any hard feelings.

Am I part of the solution?

- The issue is NOT “Can I help”, but “Do I *need to be involved?*”
- Was I asked to help, give advice, or moderate? Is it appropriate that I accept the request?
- Am I an authority over one of the persons involved? (e.g. a parent, husband, work supervisor, pastor). Is this an issue that requires my oversight or intervention?
- Do I have a close, trusting relationship with one of the persons involved, so that I can give advice *and it will be received well?* (Even if so, be careful what you advise, and how often.)
 - *Proverbs 29:11*
 - *Proverbs 25:8-10*
 - *Proverbs 25:17*

**To become involved otherwise...
(see Proverbs 26:17)**