

Five Traits of Kingdom Citizens—Part 4b
"Discipline: How?"
Matthew 18:15-20

- I. **The Church's A _____ (v. 15-17)**
- a. **A Private _____ (v. 15)**
- i. **SIN** (cf. Ps. 51):
1. **T _____ = possibly unintentional**
 2. **T _____ = definitely intentional**
 3. **I _____ = practicing sin**
 - a. **practices = poieō (ποιέω)** = "to do, to perform, to practice" (cf. 1 John 3:4-10)
- b. We must **go and show**
- c. It must be done **in private**
- d. **if he listens to you, you have won your brother** = God's goal is Rescue, Return, and Restoration
- e. **A Persistent _____ (v. 16)**
- i. **so that by the mouth of two or three witnesses every fact may be confirmed** (cf. Deut. 19:15)
- f. **A Public _____ (v. 17a)**
- i. **tell it to the church** = is a call for the church to provide:
1. Private prayer
 2. Personal persuasion
 3. Public pressure
- g. **A Plenary _____ (v. 17b)**
- i. Jesus is asking the church to vote the member out of the church and treat them like an unbeliever in need of the Gospel
- ii. **"REMOVE THE WICKED MAN FROM AMONG YOURSELVES."** (cf. 1 Cor. 5:1-13)

- II. **The Church's A _____ (vs. 18-20)**
- a. **Truly I say to you** = pay attention!
- b. **bind on earth shall have been bound in heaven** = If a faithful church binds someone to the body of Christ, then they are bound in heaven (cf. Matt. 16:19-20)
- c. **whatever you loose on earth shall have been loosed in heaven** = If a faithful church sets loose someone from the body of Christ, then they are loosed in heaven (cf. 1 Cor. 5:1-13)
- d. **that if two of you agree on earth about anything that they may ask, it shall be done for them by My Father who is in heaven** = not a promise that God MUST fulfill whatever we ask for; but instead a restatement of verse 18 that God's will is done on earth as it is in heaven when the hearts of His people is the same as His.
- e. ²⁰ **For where two or three have gathered together in My name, I am there in their midst.** = Jesus is declaring that He is the required eyewitness when the church faithfully chooses to bind or loose someone from His body
- i. Therefore, our Responsibility is just as important as our Authority!
- f. HOPE: 2 Cor. 2:5-8