

Grace for Living

Our Church is doing well.

Worship

Prayer

Service

Discipleship

Missions

Giving

Growing

Connecting

Blessing

Fellowship

What if we have trouble?

Seek Help!

Talk to one another. Communicate!

Pray.

Forgive Quickly

Love

Matthew 18 has a lot to say about this.

In troubled times work together.

[1] Jesus talks about Spiritual and Church discipline.

[2] Jesus talks about Prayer.

[3] Jesus talks about Forgiveness.

Mathew 18:15-22

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Discipline and Prayer

¹⁵ “If your brother sins, go and show him his fault in private; if he listens to you, you have won your brother. ¹⁶ But if he does not listen *to you*, take one or two more with you, so that BY THE MOUTH OF TWO OR THREE WITNESSES EVERY FACT MAY BE CONFIRMED. ¹⁷ If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸ Truly I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall have been bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall have been loosed in heaven.

¹⁹ “Again I say to you, 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. ²⁰ For where two or three have gathered together in My name, I am there in their midst.”

Forgiveness

²¹ Then Peter came and said to Him, “Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me and I forgive him? Up to seven times?” ²² Jesus *said to him, “I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven.

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In troubled times, work together.

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[2] Jesus talks about Prayer.

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Discipline and Prayer

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Talk to one another. Go with the good and the bad.

Telling the truth in love does not mean dumping on someone and then saying you love them.

It means sharing what the Gospel has to say about what you may be disagreeing about. Taking them Jesus’s love and compassion in the midst of the conflict is speaking The Truth in Love.

And conflict is just miscommunication.

Pray! Pray before, pray during and pray after.

[2] Jesus talks about Prayer.

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Pray to release things that are Godly and loving into situations.

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“In the Name of Jesus, I release a spirit of cooperation among all parties.”

Bind things away from situations.

“I bind all spirits of distraction, anger and frustration away from this meeting, in the Name of Jesus.”

Jesus asks us to forgive one another. This will help us continue in relationship, working together under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice and mercy and grace for all.

[3] Jesus talks about Forgiveness.

Forgiveness

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And the mark is erased when you ask for forgiveness.

We will never get to 490.

Forgiveness releases in heaven and binds in heaven. It releases good things and binds bad things running rampant.

Forgive, release and bless.

Remember you have Grace.

We studied about grace in our Wednesday night adult Bible Study.

Grace is getting more than you deserve.

Justice is getting what you deserve.

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Mercy is not getting what you deserve.

Grace is getting more than you deserve.

Nate had a great example of us getting pulled over, and getting money.

I had a friend who got pulled over and the officer gave him a gallon of ice cream!

That's grace!

We never lose it.

Do we have to repent all the time and ask forgiveness all the time?

What if we miss a sin?

Grace is enough. You are covered.

What's your heart? He knows the intent of our heart.

Proverbs 21:2 New American Standard Bible (NASB)

²Every man's way is right in his own eyes,
But the LORD weighs the hearts.

Romans 8:26-27 New American Standard Bible (NASB)

Our Victory in Christ

²⁶In the same way the Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for *us* with groanings too deep for words; ²⁷and He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He intercedes for the ^[a]saints according to *the will of God*.

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Hebrews 4:12 New American Standard Bible (NASB)

¹²For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

Don't make Laws! Live out Love. Live Loved.

Love, and out of Love for God we get love for fellow man.

Out of love for God and fellow man we get our lifestyle of loving.

Matthew 22:36-40 New American Standard Bible (NASB)

³⁶"Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?" ³⁷And He said to him, "'YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND.' ³⁸This is the great and ^[a]foremost commandment.³⁹The second is like it, 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.' ⁴⁰On these two commandments depend the whole Law and the Prophets."

The commandment is Love. The Law is Love. The watchword is Love. The rule is love.

Out of love comes relationship.

In Relationship comes transformation and fertilization.

Out of fertilization comes fruit.

Love leads to Fruit of the Spirit.

Galatians 5:13-26 New American Standard Bible (NASB)

¹³For you were called to freedom, brethren; only *do not turn* your freedom into an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. ¹⁴For the whole Law is fulfilled in one word, in the *statement*, "YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF." ¹⁵But if you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another.

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¹⁶But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh.¹⁷For the flesh ^(a)sets its desire against the Spirit [Lit *lusts against*], and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are in opposition to one another, so that you may not do the things that you ^(b)please [Lit *wish*]. ¹⁸But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the Law. ¹⁹Now the deeds of the flesh are evident [Flesh is more than sexual sins, Flesh is anything mortal or carnal or earthly], which are: ^(c)immorality [i.e. sexual immorality], impurity, sensuality, ²⁰idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, ^(d)factions [Or *heresies*], ²¹envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you, just as I have forewarned you, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. ²²But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. ²⁴Now those who ^(e)belong to Christ Jesus [Lit *are of Christ Jesus*] have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

²⁵If we live by the Spirit, let us also ^(f)walk by the Spirit [Or *follow the Spirit*]. ²⁶Let us not become boastful, challenging one another, envying one another.

Speak the Gospel to one another in love!

Romans 1:17 New American Standard Bible (NASB)

¹⁷For in it *the* righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "BUT THE RIGHTEOUS *man* SHALL LIVE BY FAITH."

Philippians 3:7-11 New American Standard Bible (NASB)

⁷But whatever things were gain to me, those things I have counted as loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish so that I may gain Christ, ⁹and may be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own derived from *the* Law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which *comes* from God on the basis of faith, ¹⁰that I may know Him and the power of His

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resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death; ¹¹in order that I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.

Romans 10:5-13 New American Standard Bible (NASB)

⁵For Moses writes that the man who practices the righteousness which is based on law shall live by that righteousness. ⁶But the righteousness based on faith speaks as follows: "DO NOT SAY IN YOUR HEART, 'WHO WILL ASCEND INTO HEAVEN?' (that is, to bring Christ down), ⁷or 'WHO WILL DESCEND INTO THE ABYSS?' (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead)." ⁸But what does it say? "THE WORD IS NEAR YOU, IN YOUR MOUTH AND IN YOUR HEART"—that is, the word of faith which we are preaching,⁹ that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; ¹⁰for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation. ¹¹For the Scripture says, "WHOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED." ¹²For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same *Lord* is Lord of all, abounding in riches for all who call on Him; ¹³for "WHOEVER WILL CALL ON THE NAME OF THE LORD WILL BE SAVED."

Believe in Jesus, confess Him in every area of your life. Speak the Gospel into one another.

Love God, Love each other. This brings life and fruit.

Behavior modification starts in the heart, in freedom.

Yes, spanking got my attention, but God got my heart.

Galatians 4:6 New American Standard Bible (NASB)

⁶Because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!"

Daddy sent Jesus to fulfill the Law. Don't go backwards.

Go forwards!

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Hebrews 9:15 New American Standard Bible (NASB)

¹⁵For this reason He is the mediator of a new covenant, so that, since a death has taken place for the redemption of the transgressions that were *committed* under the first covenant, those who have been called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance.

Galatians 4:9 New American Standard Bible (NASB)

⁹But now that you have come to know God, or rather to be known by God, how is it that you turn back again to the weak and worthless elemental things, to which you desire to be enslaved all over again?

Law seems easier, but it is worse for us. We give up grace to battle for self-righteousness.

Live Grace.

Live in Love, in freedom, under Father's influence in Jesus and Holy Spirit.

Don't turn back to law, turn back to God.

Rethink, repent, reform, have the mind of Christ.

Romans 15:5

Now may the God who gives perseverance and encouragement grant you to be **of** the same **mind** with one another according to **Christ** Jesus,

Philippians 4:6-8 New American Standard Bible (NASB)

⁶Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute,

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if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things.

The Gospel is Good News, God News, bringing Grace for living.

In troubled times work together. Together with God. Together with each other.

Communicate His Love, His Truth, His Life.

Seek God, share His Love, Bless one another.

[1] Jesus talks about Spiritual and Church discipline.

[2] Jesus talks about Prayer.

[3] Jesus talks about Forgiveness.

[4] Paul applied it in Love.

Go forth in Love.

Talk to one another in Love.

Be in Love with God and share your testimonies with each other.

Live your testimonies.