



# All Christians' Fellowship International

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## *Interactive Sunday School Outline*

**TOPIC:** Confrontation & Restoration

**TEXT:** Matthew 18:15-35

**Instructions** - *Let the above passages be read each time you come together to study this topic so that everyone can participate fully. The teacher should provide additional background information on the topic and come up with follow-up questions. Participants should be brief in their responses and use relevant Bible references to illustrate their points. They should be careful not to dominate the discussion to allow everyone equal opportunity to participate.*

**Introduction** – There's the tale of the father who had fallen out with his son. After a time, he posted this sign in the town square: Son, all is forgiven. Meet me here at sunset. At the appointed time, seventy-five young men showed up. How many broken relationships among our friends and families are never repaired? Why are church splits so common? Perhaps many of us don't know how to lovingly handle conflict, reconciliation, and forgiveness. Even when Jesus' followers were still few, they already had questions about how to get along with each other. Read Matthew 18:15-20.

### **Discussion Questions:**

1. How do you feel after an argument with a friend – terrible; angry; embarrassed; justified; regretful; relieved; other? Explain.
2. In general, what sort of situation among Christians is Jesus talking about?
3. Without giving unnecessary detail, how have you experienced this type of situation in the church?
4. What wisdom is there in confronting an offender alone (v. 15)?
5. What might be added by involving one or two other people (v. 16)?
6. To what additional levels of confrontation should we proceed, and why (v. 17)?

7. In the quiet of your own heart, consider a time when you have confronted someone about a wrong. How did your experience compare with vs. 15-17?
8. How do verses 18-20 affirm the reconciling power of praying together?
9. In response to Jesus' teaching about how to approach someone who has done wrong, Peter asked a question. The query motivated Jesus to tell a parable. Read Matthew 18:21-35. What is the progression of events in the story?
10. Ten thousand talents (v. 24) would equal millions of dollars, a sum no one could have paid. Why do you think Jesus used such a staggering total in his story?
11. How would it be possible for the forgiven man to so quickly turn on his fellow servant without mercy?
12. How can a church or fellowship group apply the wisdom of this passage to solving conflicts?