

There Is Almost Always More To Consider

I. Introduction:

- A. If a brother or sister has trespassed against you, what should you do?
 - 1. Should you “go and tell him his fault” (**Matthew 18:15**)?
 - 2. You're concerned about this person's soul, right (**Jude 1:21-23**)?
- B. WAIT! Is it that simple? Is it fault - address - correct?
 - 1. What about “take heed to yourself” (**Luke 17:3-4**)?
 - 2. Are you in a position to correct anyone (**Matthew 7:1-5** and **John 8:1-11**)?

II. Body: There IS More To It - I.E. Ye Which Are Spiritual (**Galatians 6:1-2**).

- A. You must FIRST examine yourself and make YOURSELF right before addressing anyone else (**Luke 6:39-46**).
 - 1. If you're not right with the Lord, you'll be condemning yourself (**Romans 2:1-6**).
 - 2. Can you properly consider yourself (**Haggai 1:5**)?
 - 3. Are you spiritually minded enough for this (**Galatians 6:1**; cf. **Romans 8:5-8** and **Galatians 5:13-17**)?
- B. Can you approach this trespass against you using the Scriptures as your standard of judgment (**Isaiah 8:20**, **I Corinthians 4:6**, **Ephesians 5:10**, **Colossians 3:17**, **II Timothy 3:15-17**, and **II John 1:9**)?
 - 1. Your way, your feelings, is not the right way (**Proverbs 3:5-7**, **Proverbs 12:15**, **Proverbs 14:12**, and **Luke 18:9-14**).
 - 2. Can you judge without being a “respector of persons” (**Proverbs 24:23-25** and **James 2:1-13**)?
 - 3. Can you judge (**John 7:24**) a person using the Lord's standard instead of your own (**Luke 12:41-48**, **John 12:48**, and **II Corinthians 10:12-18**)?
- C. Some applications as to whether or not you're Scripturally fit to correct an erring saint aside from what we've discussed already...
 - 1. What if you get angry quickly (**Proverbs 14:17**, **Proverbs 15:18**, and **Ecclesiastes 7:9**) and cannot control that anger (**Proverbs 29:22** and **James 1:20**)?
 - 2. What if you're not knowledgeable enough, in APPLICATION of the Scriptures, to deal with it (**Matthew 22:29**)?
 - 3. Do you know your capabilities (**Matthew 25:14-30**) or do you think too highly of yourself (**Isaiah 65:2-5**, **Romans 12:3**, and **Galatians 6:3**)?
 - 4. What if you do have knowledge, but that blinds you (**I Corinthians 8:1**)?
 - 5. Are you a capable, fair, fruit inspector or are you caught up in words (**Matthew 7:15-20** and **Titus 1:16**)?
 - 6. What if you struggle with knowing when to shut up (**Proverbs 10:19**)?

7. Can you discern right from wrong through proper experience (**Hebrews 5:12-14**; cf. **Proverbs 17:15**)?
8. Can you think about how you would want this handled if you were he or she - WITHOUT making that your standard (**Matthew 7:12** and **Hebrews 13:3**)?
9. If it is not a matter of sin (**James 5:19-20**) are you willing to set it aside and be defrauded (**I Corinthians 6:1-8**)?
10. Are you ready to live with the consequences of what might happen if you cannot resolve this amongst you and that person (**Matthew 18:15-17**; cf. **Jeremiah 5:23**)?
11. Are you sure of what you're about to do from the Scriptures (**Romans 14:23**)? What if YOU are the problem and you cause someone else to stumble (**Matthew 18:1-6** and **Romans 14:13**)?

III. Conclusion: This study was about when a brother or sister has PRIVATELY trespassed against you. It is not a study covering all disciplinary situations. As you can see on this one subject, there is often more to consider. We could have added more to what is above. The overall point is that we have to rightly divide the word of truth, for there is almost always more to consider (**II Timothy 2:14-18**).