

Review (the 4 G's)

- G_____ God.
- Get the _____ out of your own eye.
- Gently _____.
- G_____ and be _____.

Chapter 8: Speak the Truth in Love*

Ephesians 4:14–15 (NKJV)

14 that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, 15 but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ—

Bring hope through the gospel.

Be quick to listen. (James 1:19)

The tongue of the wise brings healing.

- Breathe grace. (Gal 5:22–23)
- Make charitable judgments. (1 Cor 13:6)
- Speak the truth in love. (Eph 4:15; Phil 2:3–4; 1 Thess 5:14–15)
- Talk from beside not from above.
- Help others examine the desires of their heart.
- Choose the right time and place.
- Talk in person whenever possible.
- Engage rather than declare.
- Communicate so clearly you cannot be misunderstood.
- _____ your words. (Prov 14:22)
- Use “I” statements.
- Be _____.
- Use the Bible _____.
- Don't use the Bible to _____.
- Don't take verses out of _____.
- Encourage people to read the passage on their own.
- Know when to _____.
- Ask for _____.
- Offer solutions and preferences.
- Recognize your _____. (2 Tim 2:24–26)

Ron Kraybill: “Effective confrontation is like a graceful dance from supportiveness to assertiveness and back again.”

Chapter 9: Take One or Two Others Along

Matthew 18:16 (NKJV)

But if he will not hear, take with you one or two more, that “by the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established.”

Bonhoeffer on confrontation: “Nothing is so cruel as the tenderness that consigns another to his sin. Nothing can be more compassionate than the severe rebuke that calls a brother back from the path of sin.”†

The Matthew 18 Process

General principle: keep the circle as _____ as possible for as _____ as possible.

- Step 1 _____ minor offenses
- Step 2 Talk in private.
- Step 3 Take one or two others along. (Matt 18:16; Phil 4:2–3)
 - By _____ agreement.
 - On your _____.
- Step 4 Tell it to the church. (18:17)

Note: the church's decision is _____. (Matt 18:18–20)
- Step 5 Treat him as a _____.
 - Withdraw membership privileges.
 - Work to evangelize.
 - Perhaps exclude from church property.

Purposes for treating someone as a non-believer:

- Revoking membership prevents the Lord from being _____ if that person continues to sin. (Rom 2:23–24)
- Other believers are _____ from being led astray by a bad example. (Rom 16:17; 1 Cor 5:1–6)
- Helps the rebellious person recognize their sin and the _____ of it, turn from it, and be restored to God.

The purpose is not to punish but to _____ out of _____.

What do reconcilers do?

- They help both parties make the decisions needed to restore peace.
- They may help _____ the _____.
- They may give _____ on how to deal with the problem.
- They may encourage repentance and confession on either side.
- They may direct both parties to relevant scriptures and principles.
- They may draw from experience to propose _____ solutions.
- They may help resolve a _____.
- If no resolution is reached, they may function as _____ to the church during the reconciliation effort.

* Sande, Ken. *The Peacemaker: A Biblical Guide to Resolving Personal Conflict*. 3rd ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 2004.

† From *Life Together*, trans. John W. Doberstein, (Harper & Row, 1954), 107. Quoted on page 195 of Sande.