

OPEN TO CORRECTION

OPEN HEART | LIVING IN CHRIST WITH NOTHING TO HIDE 2 CORINTHIANS

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- Many followers of Jesus don't allow others to talk with them about their sin. It may be that they don't see the need for it. (Raccoon story)
- God has given us instructions on how to talk with each other about sin, and how to reconcile our relationships..

THE CORINTHIAN CONFRONTATION WITH A MAN IN OPEN SIN. 2:5-13; 7:8-10

- Paul's letter led them to deal with the man's sin. The man repented, and it was time to reconcile.
- If they would not reconcile, they would play into Satan's plan to destroy their relationships. (2:11)
- God has given us instructions on how to talk with each other about sin, and how to reconcile our relationships.

THE ENEMY'S PLAN	LIFE IN JESUS TOGETHER
<i>BITTER</i>	<i>FORGIVING</i>
<i>DIVIDED</i>	<i>UNIFIED</i>
<i>ISOLATED</i>	<i>CONNECTED</i>
<i>HIDDEN</i>	<i>OPEN</i>
<i>COMPETITIVE</i>	<i>GRACIOUS</i>
<i>SHALLOW</i>	<i>DEEP AND OPEN</i>

WHAT CAN WE DO?

READ GALATIANS 6:1-3

1. The Shoreline Church needs a plan! Everyone has been wronged, and everyone has wronged another.
2. We are qualified to confront when we are godly. We have learned the path of repentance ourselves.
3. We approach another believer gently, humbly, and carefully, knowing our own faults.
4. Christ Jesus wants us to do this and not think other things are more important than this.

HOW DO WE DO IT?

READ MATTHEW 18:15-17 (HOW OFTEN? VV21-22)

1. Go personally, speak directly. Be gentle, humble and careful as you do, and seek to restore.
2. To confess is to agree. If you agree, then forgive, restore, and affirm your relationship.
3. If there is no agreement, then bring 1-2 others into the conversation. (These too must be godly, gentle, humble and careful). Are you in community?
4. If still no agreement, contact the church.
5. If a person won't repent of open, known sin, they should be treated like the non-believer they are living like. Discipline is designed to restore.

HOW DOES THIS GO WRONG?

“Everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.”

2 TIMOTHY 3:12

1. We are harsh not humble, and we are in the habit of blaming others. We love confronting others to take the light off of ourselves.
 - We need to humble ourselves and repent
2. Our walk doesn't match our talk. We refuse to repent, even when confronted.
 - We need to grow out of this pattern. We need to invite others to speak into our life, and change.
3. We talk to others without talking personally to the one person. We gossip and slander, causing further damage.
 - We must ask God for the courage to humbly, gently, and carefully speak directly.
4. We settle for shallowness rather than open, deep relationships and love is stunted.
 - Refuse to stop short of the life that Jesus has for us together. Commit to love and open hearts.