

# Relationship: Conflict Resolution

*Eric Lee*

## Sermon Synopsis - September 10th 2023

### Gospel of Matthew 18:15-20

In this sermon, the focus is on the essence of Christianity as a relationship-based faith, emphasizing both our connection with God and our relationships with others.

The sermon commences by underlining the paramount significance of our relationship with God. It highlights how Jesus came to restore this connection, describing sin as a factor that damages this pivotal relationship. Emphasizing the concept of grace and the role of faith in accepting God's gift, it delves into the core idea that Christianity revolves around the restoration of our relationship with our Creator.

Moving on to our relationships with each other, the sermon underscores Jesus' emphasis on community and the significance of nurturing a caring, supportive, and prayerful community of believers. It touches upon the dynamics of

conflicts within a community, drawing from the relatable conflicts portrayed in "The Chosen."

The Gospel reading serves as a guide for addressing conflicts within the church or any relationship. It advocates for direct communication when hurt occurs, urging individuals to speak one-on-one about their grievances. It further advises seeking help if the one-on-one conversation doesn't resolve the issue, advocating for continued efforts toward reconciliation. The sermon reflects on the complexity of dealing with unrepentant members within a community and underscores the importance of caring for them despite their exclusion.

The sermon concludes by reinforcing Jesus' promise to be present when efforts for reconciliation are made. It highlights the value Jesus places on the health of our relationships with God and one another, encouraging faithful nurturing of both these relationships for the glory of God.

Overall, the message centers on the core elements of Christianity as a relationship-driven faith, emphasizing the

restoration of our connection with God and the significance of fostering healthy relationships within communities.