

Am I My Brother's Keeper

(Subtitle-To tell or not to tell, this is the question.)

Text- Matthew 18: 15-20 and 2 Samuel 11: 26-27; 2 Samuel 12: 7-15

"If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone but..."

"You are the man!"

QUESTION	MY ANSWER
What is the "real world" definition of sin and how might it apply to daily life?	Violating bible, moral/ethical societal or personal standards of right versus wrong behavior. Unlike genetic, familial, environmental reasons/justifications, sin is "fixable."
What does the phrase "snitches get stitches" mean to you?	You don't tell on people. It's not cool to "call people out." There is retribution for "outing" someone/squealing.
How easy is it for you to go without telling someone they have food between their teeth, hair or mucous coming from their nose or other hygiene issues?	Most of us feel so embarrassed for the person or awkward addressing the issue that we choose to avoid it altogether and permit it to linger until the person figures it out themselves or someone else alerts them.
When do you "tell someone" and when do you "tell on someone?" (When is confrontation necessary?)	When it becomes obvious or apparent and before it creates lasting negative impact. When telling someone directly proves ineffective.
What is the definition and behavior of confrontation What's it mean/look like?	Merriam Webster: face to face meeting; the clashing of forces or ideas
What do you think about confrontation in your life?	Who are you to tell me whatever? That's not the Jesus/God I believe in. My Jesus/God would never do that.
What do you think Jesus thinks about confrontation? What is your evidence?	Consider the woman at the well; Luke 4: 21; Jesus and Simon, the Pharisee the Pharisees, Saducees and scribes; Peter, Pilate; the money changers; Saul/Paul
How should confrontation be received?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Try to (objectively) hear the content and minimize the emotional response • Evaluate the truth of the information • If content and truth are valid, attempt to objectively apply both and be (ultimately) grateful for the encounter
What was your most difficult instance of you confronting someone?	Telling someone they were fired for permitting a charge to jump off of the roof of the education building. Telling someone they had embezzled funds from the organization.
What was your most difficult instance of someone confronting you?	
When should confrontation be avoided?	When you're too afraid or emotionally overwhelmed to achieve an effective outcome. Confrontation may often be abrasive, aggressive, passionate, loud but necessary
What should be the outcome of confrontation?	Changed behavior/action/ attitude/activity. Often times, we might never "repent" if it weren't brought to our attention. The "real" Jesus is returning for 1 final confrontation.

DISCOVERY-Let's read the passage-Matthew 18: 15-20; 2 Samuel 12:7-15 (ESV) for lesson pages

Consider these passages and their applications:

- Matthew 18: 15-If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother.
 - ✓ This is not necessarily "10 commandment" missing the mark behaviors. It can be
 - ✓ Ideally, this instance should be private.
 - ✓ Listening and being influenced is the desired outcome.
- Matthew 18: 16-But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of 2 Or 3 witnesses.
 - ✓ Jesus, understanding human's sin nature, (mankind only appreciates truth how, when and from whom they choose/permit) gives instruction to partner with a brother/sister and attempt again
 - ✓ The whole plot was orchestrated to "take Daniel down."
 - ✓ Be aware of the adversary's plot against you.
 - ✓ When you stand well, it gets attention, is noticed and you receive "forever points" in your account.
- Matthew 18: 17-If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And, if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector.
 - ✓ Jesus, anticipating further rejection, directs this to become the public domain of the local/universal church.
 - ✓ If no success from exposure to collected Believers, this individual is treated as though he DOES NOT have a relationship with Jesus, requires preaching/teaching (from ALL mature Believers.)
 - ✓ The Individual is NOT excommunicated from the church.
- Matthew 18: 18-Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.
 - ✓ So this particular Scripture grouping is about humility, minimizing loss and maintaining unity
 - ✓ The phrase "binding and loosing" was common among the Hebrews. It meant to forbid and to permit.
 - ✓ This was NOT understood to be setting the standards for the church and church authority rather this was disciples carrying out the will of Yahweh in the matter. (Apostles "opened" the kingdom. They were tasked with preaching/ teaching how to enter, conduct and philosophy and behavior)
- Matthew 18: 19-Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven.
 - ✓ This passage is NOT about getting what you want through prayer (in groups of two!)
 - ✓ This (and the following passage) are about the importance of witnesses and humility when practicing spiritual discipline. (Deut. 19:15)
 - ✓ And although this is about prayer, the prayer is in accordance with Yahweh's will because we keep His commandments and do His will. (1 John 3:22)
- Matthew 18: 20-For where two or three are gathered in my name, there I am among them.
 - ✓ This is not referencing that when 2 or 3 gather, that Jesus is in the middle of the posse.
 - ✓ This is again referencing what the Jews knew from the Old Testament-(Deut. 19:15.)
 - ✓ Jesus is simply affirming "that He will be divinely present among His disciples as they seek unity in rendering decisions, which is rightly understood also as an affirmation of omnipresence and therefore of deity." (ESV Study Bible)
- 2 Samuel 12: 7-Nathan said to David, "You are the man! Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel.
 - ✓ Nathan was a close trusted friend. (David and Bathsheba named a son, Nathan-1 Chron 3:5.) He spoke truth to David, even when that truth was difficult to hear. He was loyal in his service to the king and faithful to Yahweh God and His word.
 - ✓ One reason David is called "a man after Yahweh God's own heart" is because he seems to understand there's a remedy for his SIN issues.
- Confrontation is not a bad thing if based on truth, desired outcome is a change, reversal or cessation even if event is or feels negative.
- Confrontation may occur differently according to your situation, severity, urgency, personality and spiritual gift.
- Many great, grand historical achievements are a result of (person to person) conflict-Israelite freedom, conquering Canaan, translation of the Bible, The United States, the Emancipation Proclamation, Civil Rights Laws, Women's Suffrage

Am I My Brother's Keeper

(Subtitle-To tell or not to tell, this is the question.)

Text- Matthew 18: 15-20 and 2 Samuel 11: 26-27; 2 Samuel 12: 7-15

"If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone but..."

"You are the man!"

QUESTION	MY ANSWER
What is the "real world" definition of sin and how might it apply to daily life?	
What does the phrase "snitches get stitches" mean to you?	
How easy is it for you to go without telling someone they have food between their teeth, hair or mucous coming from their nose or other hygiene issues?	
When do you "tell someone" and when do you "tell <i>on</i> someone?" (When is confrontation necessary?)	
What is the definition and behavior of confrontation What's it mean/look like?	
What do you think about confrontation in your life?	
What do you think Jesus thinks about confrontation? What is your evidence?	
How should confrontation be received?	
What was your most difficult instance of you confronting someone?	
What was your most difficult instance of someone confronting you?	
When should confrontation be avoided?	
What should be the outcome of confrontation?	