

The Missing Piece, Part 5:
Keeping Koinonia

How should the true church deal with conflict, hurt, and offense?

1) Talk with the Lord about it in prayer and Bible study.

Psalm 19:7-14

2) In communing with the Lord you may discover that you are the one in the wrong, if so . . .

- Settle your differences quickly before they grow.
Luke 12:58
- Lack of reconciliation nullifies your worship.
Matthew 5:24

3) If the other is in the wrong . . .

- Pray for them that the Holy Spirit will reveal it to them.
James 5:16
- Consider that you can forgive it without speaking to them about it at all.
Ephesians 4:32

4) If, after prayer, you feel that you must speak to them . . .

- Go to them privately with the motive of reconciliation.
- Give them time to consider and if need be go again.
Matthew 18:15

5) If the person will not acknowledge the sin, then take two of their friends with you and speak to them again.

Matthew 18:16

- Why their friends? If you can't convince others that you have been wronged, maybe you haven't been wronged?
- Also, remember the purpose is for reconciliation.

6) If the person still is unwilling to make things right, then you, along with the witnesses, tell it to the pastor and/or elders.

Matthew 18:17

7) This is not a fleshly process, but a spiritual process aimed at a spiritual result, which is keeping the koinonia.

Matthew 18:19-20