

Biblical intervention

Not necessarily a last-ditch effort but the next step in recovery and restoration.

*“He who commits adultery lacks sense; he who does it destroys himself.” - Proverbs 6:32 ESV*

*“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. But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. 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.”  
 “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. 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. For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.”*

*Matthew 18:15-20 ESV*

Ask, how many have only really heard this passage used in reference to prayer?

Most of the time, we think of these verses as prayer verses but actually is much more than that. Confronting one another in love for the good of the body and for their life.

**Confronting destructive behavior not sin sniffing.** What is sin sniffing?

Sin sniffing is really more about you and your feelings of judgment and superiority than it is helping someone else out of their sin.

**A Proper Perspective on Sin**

Sin is first and foremost against God. David had a proper view of his sin.

*Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your judgment. Psalm 51:4*

**To confront someone, there has to be evidence of the sin.**

They will either confess it or deny it.

Confession that will lead to repentance (not so you just win)

<b>Deny</b>
If they deny, then you bring in others to confront.
If they deny again, then you bring in the church. Most of the time, they hide and self-amputate.
If they deny in front of the church, treat them as a Gentile and a tax collector. Don't amputate them but treat them as an unbeliever. Jesus does not call for amputation.

<b>Confess</b>
If they confess,
Confession and repentance
Confession and I'm not repenting – aren't we all sinners? Don't judge me.

Scripture does instruct us to be discerning (and that is not judging) Take some time to look at some of these verses – Col. 2:8; Heb. 4:12; Heb. 5:14; James 1:5; Mt. 10:16; Ps. 119:25; Rom. 12:2; Ps. 119:25

If someone is **Unrepentant**, here are some options:

Amputate – but it's not biblical
Ignore – popular lazy non-discipleship method (I am uncomfortable and don't want it to be tense) ostrich-endorse with our silence
Enable – endorse with our words, laughter, companionship – “you deserve to be happy” – the sermon on the Mount does not mention happiness based upon our preferences.
Evil and sin starts within us, not out there. <i>The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it? – Jeremiah 17:9</i>
<b>Discipleship</b> – it can start before conversion. We continue to lead them to truth.

If someone is **Repentant**

Amputate – scripture does not endorse this – we are now family. Many churches choose this option not fully understanding the need of the body. The one who sinned needs family and the family needs to see the power of God at work in the family members life.
<i>“Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted. Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.” - Galatians 6:1-2 ESV</i>
<b>Discipleship</b> – we walk with them and continue to lead them to the truth.

Many will ask, Aren't all transgressions the same? We consider all things and people to be disposable. Christ was not in the ministry of casting people aside. Since we are all image bearers of God, it is right that we would see people as God sees them. Genesis 1:26-27; James 3:9

“You who are spiritual” are the prescription to help others. “You who are spiritual” – bear one another's burdens is about restoring those who are broken and sinning. This does not mean, “you who are perfect” but it does reflect on those who desire to be like Christ themselves and desire to see others live for Christ as well.

Allow time for prayer requests and close your time in prayer.