

## **“The Conflict Factor-Coping with Conflict”**

### **Series: 4 Factors that Sideline a Church**

Text: Matthew 18:15-51

February 6, 2011 AM

*Matthew 18:15-20* <sup>15</sup>“If your brother sins against you, go and show him his fault, just between the two of you. If he listens to you, you have won your brother over. <sup>16</sup> But if he will not listen, take one or two others along, so that ‘every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.’ <sup>17</sup> If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if he refuses to listen even to the church, treat him as you would a pagan or a tax collector. <sup>18</sup>“I tell you the truth, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. <sup>19</sup>“Again, I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything you ask for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. <sup>20</sup> For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them.”

#### **I. SEEK OUT THE \_\_\_\_\_**

*Galatians 5:17* For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other, so that you do not do what you want.

#### **II. START CLOSE TO \_\_\_\_\_**

*Genesis 4:7* If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must master it.

#### **III. SEARCH OUT \_\_\_\_\_ GROUND**

*Ephesians 4:3* Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

#### **IV. STAND AGAINST \_\_\_\_\_**

*James 4:1-3* <sup>1</sup> What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you? <sup>2</sup> You want something but don't get it. You kill and covet, but you cannot have what you want. You quarrel and fight. You do not have, because you do not ask God. <sup>3</sup> When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.

#### **V. STRIVE FOR \_\_\_\_\_**

*Matthew 5:23-24* <sup>23</sup> Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, <sup>24</sup> leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to your brother; then come and offer your gift.

#### **VI. SHARE YOUR \_\_\_\_\_**

*Romans 5:10* For if, when we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life!