

# The Rule of Christ: Steps for Conflict Resolution

In Matthew 18, Jesus guides us to make peace with one another when conflicts arise in the church.

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## Look at Yourself

Matthew 18:8-9  
Jesus tells us to examine our role in the conflict.

### Tools:

Insight Journal

### Questions:

What do I need to acknowledge & change?  
How does my role in the conflict look to the other person?  
What does God see?

### Decision:

Can I let it go?  
If not, proceed to Step 2.

2



## One on One

Matthew 18:15  
Try to resolve the conflict directly.

### Tools:

Insight Journal  
Successful Meeting Tips  
Respectful Communication Guidelines

### Decision:

Can we come to a mutually agreeable solution?  
If not, proceed to Step 3.

3



## Get Objective Help

Matthew 18:16  
The SPRC or other parties can lead you to resolution.

### Tools:

Conflict Summary  
SPRC Meeting

### Decision:

Are the recommendations from the SPRC acceptable to resolve the conflict?  
If not, proceed to Step 4.

4



## Take It to the Church

Matthew 18:17a  
Use Church resources.

### Tools:

Gifted and trained members  
Conference resources

### Decision:

Did these resources help to resolve the conflict?  
If not, proceed to Step 5.

5



## Shake Off the Dust

Matthew 18:17a  
Not all conflicts get resolved.

### Tools:

Pastoral guidance  
Conference resources

### Decisions:

Does my presence hurt the church? Can my gifts and passions be put to better use elsewhere?  
If so, leave-taking may be best.

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## Trust that Jesus Is with Us

Matthew 18:20  
Remember God's powerful promise to be with us in the midst of our problems.

### Tools:

Prayer  
SPRC members