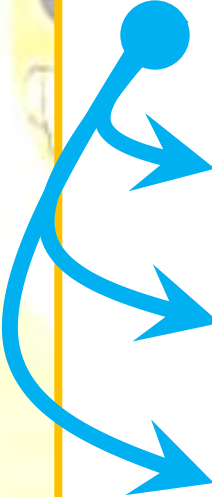




# We Be Brethren...

## Jesus now approaches the subject of brotherly relationship

### *Outline*

- 
- 1. Humble yourself as a child**  
(this is greatness in the kingdom)
  - 2. Do not cause one another to stumble**  
(for God wants him saved)
  - 3. Approach your erring brother**  
(and God will be in agreement)
  - 4. Forgive your brother**  
(or God will condemn you)

# We Be Brethren...

## **Point 1: Learn Humility...As A Little Child**

### **Mt 18**

1 At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Who then is greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" 2 Then Jesus called a little child to Him, set him in the midst of them, 3 and said, "Assuredly, I say to you, unless you are converted and become as little children, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven. 4 Therefore whoever humbles himself as this little child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. 5 Whoever receives one little child like this in My name receives Me.

# We Be Brethren...

## **Point 2: Do Not Cause Others To Stumble – For God Not Want Them To Perish**

### **Mt 18**

6 "Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were drowned in the depth of the sea. 7 Woe to the world because of offenses! For offenses must come, but woe to that man by whom the offense comes! 8 "If your hand or foot causes you to sin, cut it off and cast it from you. It is better for you to enter into life lame or maimed, rather than having two hands or two feet, to be cast into the everlasting fire. 9 And if your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and cast it from you. It is better for you to enter into life with one eye, rather than having two eyes, to be cast into hell fire.

# We Be Brethren...

## **Point 2: Do Not Cause Others To Stumble – For God Not Want Them To Perish**

### **Mt 18**

10 "Take heed that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that in heaven their angels always see the face of My Father who is in heaven. 11 For the Son of Man has come to save that which was lost. 12 "What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep, and one of them goes astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine and go to the mountains to seek the one that is straying? 13 And if he should find it, assuredly, I say to you, he rejoices more over that sheep than over the ninety-nine that did not go astray. 14 Even so it is not the will of your Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish.

# We Be Brethren...

## **Point 2: Do Not Cause Others To Stumble (vv6-14)**

### **Outline**

- vv6-7: Woe to one who causes others to stumble
- vv8-9: Remove what causes you to sin
- vv10-14: God cares for and saves these little ones
  - Angels watch over them
  - Jesus came to save them
  - It is not the will of the Father that they perish



**Huge: are you concerned about your brother's salvation...or not?**

# We Be Brethren...

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## Point 3: Bridging Brotherly Chasms

### Mt 18

15 "Moreover if your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he hears you, you have gained your brother. 16 But if he will not hear, take with you one or two more, that 'BY THE MOUTH OF TWO OR THREE WITNESSES EVERY WORD MAY BE ESTABLISHED.' 17 And if he refuses to hear them, tell it to the church. But if he refuses even to hear the church, let him be to you like a heathen and a tax collector. 18 "Assuredly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. 19 "Again I say to you that if two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven. 20 For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them."

# We Be Brethren...

## **Point 3: Bridging Brotherly Chasms (vv15-20)**

- 1. Approach a problem with your brother**
- 2. Approach it, even if he has not yet approached it**
- 3. Approach it, even if it is a "personal problem"**
- 4. Approach it, even it is his problem with you**
- 5. Approach it between the two of you**
- 6. Approach it with witnesses**
- 7. Approach it congregationally**
- 8. He may not respond**
- 9. Let him be as a non-Christian**
- 10. A godly action will be agreed upon by God**
- 11. What qualities are necessary to fulfill this??**



# We Be Brethren...

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## Point 4: Forgiving Your Brother (vv21-35)

### Mt 18

21 Then Peter came to Him and said, "**Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? Up to seven times?**" 22 Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven. 23 Therefore the kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. 24 And when he had begun to settle accounts, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. 25 But as he was not able to pay, his master commanded that he be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and that payment be made. 26 The servant therefore fell down before him, saying, 'Master, have patience with me, and I will pay you all.'

# We Be Brethren...

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## **Point 4: Forgiving Your Brother (vv21-35)**

### **Mt 18**

27 Then the master of that servant was moved with compassion, released him, and forgave him the debt. 28 "But that servant went out and found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and he laid hands on him and took him by the throat, saying, 'Pay me what you owe!' 29 So his fellow servant fell down at his feet and begged him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you all.' 30 And he would not, but went and threw him into prison till he should pay the debt. 31 So when his fellow servants saw what had been done, they were very grieved, and came and told their master all that had been done.

# We Be Brethren...

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## **Point 4: Forgiving Your Brother (vv21-35)**

### **Mt 18**

32 Then his master, after he had called him, said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you begged me. 33 Should you not also have had compassion on your fellow servant, just as I had pity on you?' 34 And his master was angry, and delivered him to the torturers until he should pay all that was due to him. 35 "So My heavenly Father also will do to you if each of you, from his heart, does not forgive his brother his trespasses."

# We Be Brethren...

## **Point 4: Forgiving Your Brother (vv21-35)**

- 1. God takes forgiveness very seriously**
- 2. The basis of our forgiving others is God's forgiveness of us**
- 3. God has forgiven us of an inconceivable debt...do we not forgive each other?**
- 4. How do I forgive?**



# We Be Brethren...

- As humans and we all injure one another.
- List good things that came from this experience.
- Forgiveness is not forsaking wisdom.
- Moving from the past, focus on the now and the future.
- Embrace and understand your responsibility.
- Allow compassion (practice grace).
- Let love decide to wish one well.
- Sincerely pray for “the other.”
- You, too, need forgiveness at times – of even more (sin).
- Do not let “the story” be your focus of life.

*We Be Brethren...*

**Back To Humility**



# We Be Brethren...

**So, what does Jesus want in brotherly relationship?**

## ***Outline***

- 1. Humble yourself as a child**  
(this is greatness in the kingdom)
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(for God wants him saved)
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# We Be Brethren...

## **Point 1: Practice Humility (vv1-5)**

- 1. Humility: the basis of the whole narrative?**
- 2. Pride vs. Humility in relationship...one casts out the other...what does pride do?**
- 3. Humility is IMPERATIVE to good brotherly relationships**
- 4. How do we practice humility**



# We Be Brethren...

- You do not know everything.
- It is okay for others to not be perfect.
- You listen objectively regarding your own inconsistencies, trying to be honest in evaluating yourself
- You do not tear down others that do not agree with you.
- You consider your own input to troubles or failure.
- You see your own errors and limitations.
- You start working on self to fix your faults.
- While you know your abilities, you do not posture yourself above others.

# We Be Brethren...

- You truly appreciate the abilities and traits of others, even seeking to help them apply them.
- Faults and failures are something you will own up to.
- While you do not like failure, you do not let it get in the way of trying.
- You do not depend upon your own wisdom in all things, but seek the counsel of others.
- You gladly embrace others' better ideas.
- You continue to work on self, letting others help to mold you.
- You are open to putting yourself in other's shoes in order to understand their behavior or faults.

# We Be Brethren...

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