

Community Based Disciples

Talk 5

Responsible Care- fronting (2)

Matthew 18: 1- 20

Says Who . . . ?

Binding & loosing/ forbidding & permitting

- Jewish Rabbinical culture, practice & failure- Matt. 23: 16- 22
- Getting the order of authority right
 - The unfortunate implications of our translations . . .
 - ". . . *whatever you may bind on earth shall be, having been already bound in heaven, and whatever you may loose on earth shall be, having been already loosed in heaven . . .*"
 - The Point: To determine what God has bound and loosed in heaven so that we can declare and administer that on earth
- Jesus, who is God with us, set up the true "binding and loosing" (e.g. Matt. 5- 7)
- Jesus delegates the responsibility to "bind & loose" to the "church"
 - Who is the "church"?

Practising "binding and loosing": dynamic working of people meeting in Jesus Name (OT & NT teaching & Prayer & Spirit)- 2/3, small group, leadership, whole congregation, tradition.

- Don't just follow yourself: believing the Bible is easy, applying it is tricky

Example: Getting it right- Acts 15: 1ff

Failing to do so- 1 Cor. 6: 1- 11

- Pro- active "church":

Col. 3: 15- 17: "Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your heart to God.

And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

In the light of 1 John 1: 5- 2: 2 we should not be afraid to discuss the following questions humbly in our various "church" meetings.

- What known sins have you committed since our last meeting?
- What temptations have you met with?
- How have you been delivered?
- What have you thought, said or done of which you doubt whether it be sin or not?
- What are you intentionally going to do to show/ share Jesus grace to you to others?
- Etc.