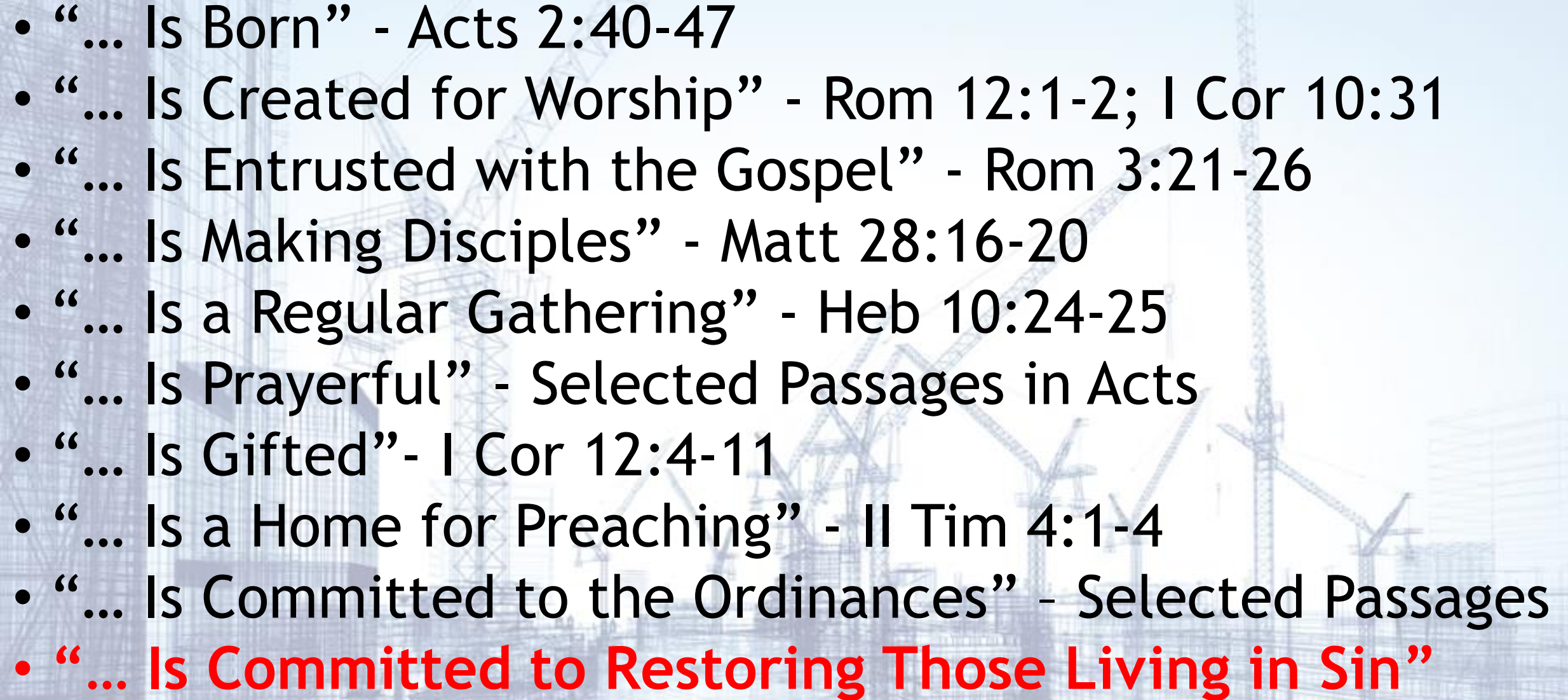




UNDER CONSTRUCTION

WHAT CHRIST WANTS TO BUILD

- 
- “... Is Born” - Acts 2:40-47
 - “... Is Created for Worship” - Rom 12:1-2; I Cor 10:31
 - “... Is Entrusted with the Gospel” - Rom 3:21-26
 - “... Is Making Disciples” - Matt 28:16-20
 - “... Is a Regular Gathering” - Heb 10:24-25
 - “... Is Prayerful” - Selected Passages in Acts
 - “... Is Gifted” - I Cor 12:4-11
 - “... Is a Home for Preaching” - II Tim 4:1-4
 - “... Is Committed to the Ordinances” - Selected Passages
 - “... Is Committed to Restoring Those Living in Sin”

“Under Construction” Series



1. Matthew 18:15-20

2. Titus 3:10-11

3. I Corinthians 5

4. Galatians 6:1-3

4 Primary Passages About Church Discipline



KEY POINT:

No one's ongoing sin should be overlooked.



Toolbox for Skillful Shepherding

Member Condition	Spiritual Danger	Proper Response	Scriptural Support
Living Fruitfully	Failing to Continue	Encourage; Praise	1 Thess 4:1; Phil 2:29
Lacking Information	Doctrinal Ignorance	Teach; Instruct	1 Cor 12:1; 1 Thess 4:13; Acts 18:26
Needing to Get Moving	Laziness; Neglect	Exhort; Spur On; Urge	Heb 5:11–12; 6:12; 10:24; 2 Cor 9:4–5
Suffering Trial	Discouragement	Comfort; Console	2 Cor 1:4; 7:6
Starting to Go Astray	New Sin Pattern	Warn; Correct; Admonish	Titus 3:10; 1 Cor 4:14; Luke 9:54–55; Matt 16:23
Determined to Wander	Habitual Sin	Rebuke	Rev 3:18–19; Titus 1:12–13; Gal 2:11
Stubborn Unrepentance	Apostasy	Excommunicate	Matt 18:17; 1 Cor 5:5



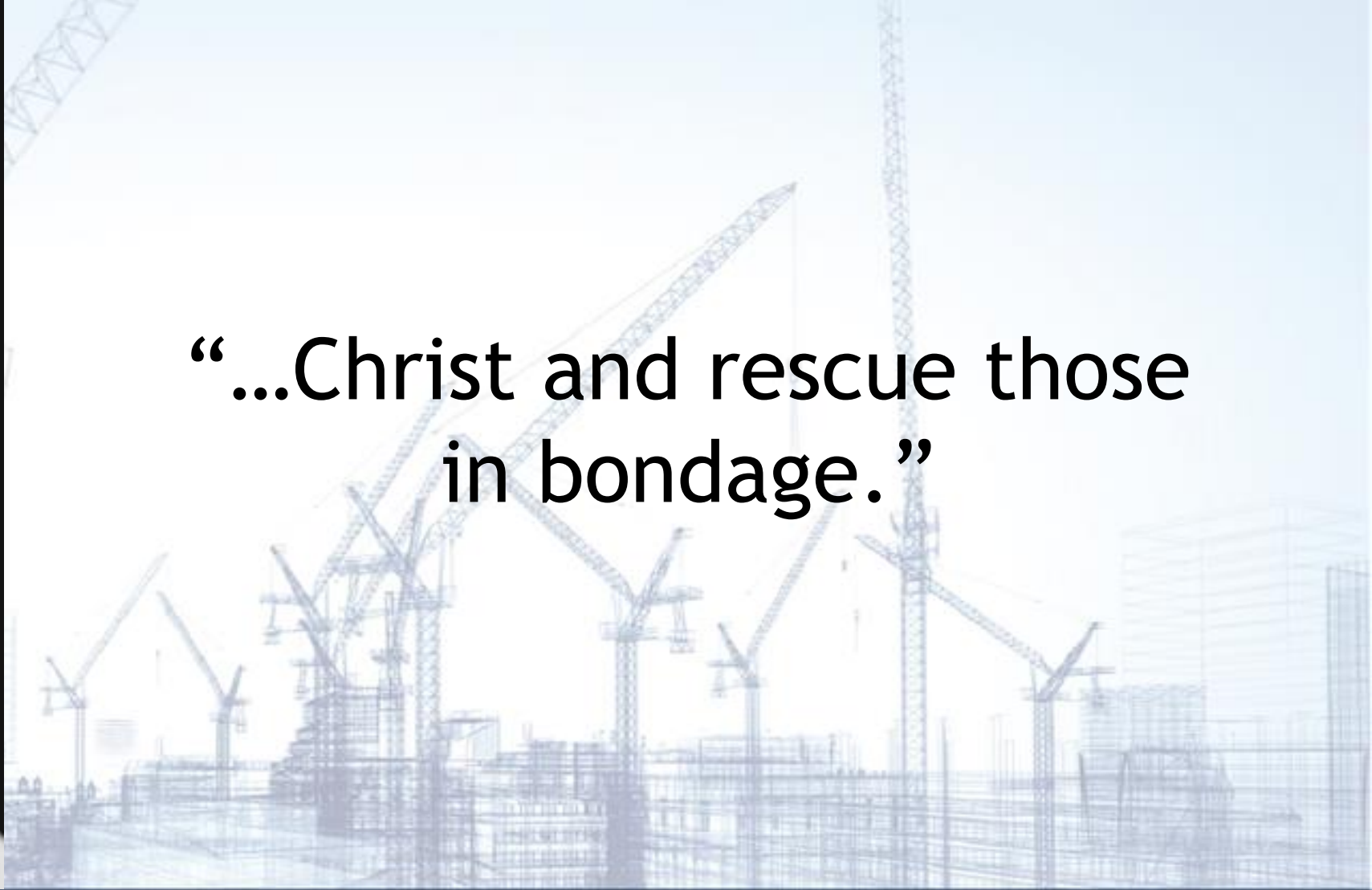
“God’s vision of discipline requires a commitment to help those trapped by sin’s power in order that these ‘strugglers’ might learn to walk in newness of the Spirit as obedient followers of Jesus Christ. For that reason, we must accept the process of...

Paul Tautges, *Counseling One Another*



“...discipleship will get messy at times, because sin damages everything it touches and hurts everyone it traps. Because of this reality, those who have made the commitment to love biblically must always be prepared to minister the compassion of...

Paul Tautges, *Counseling One Another*



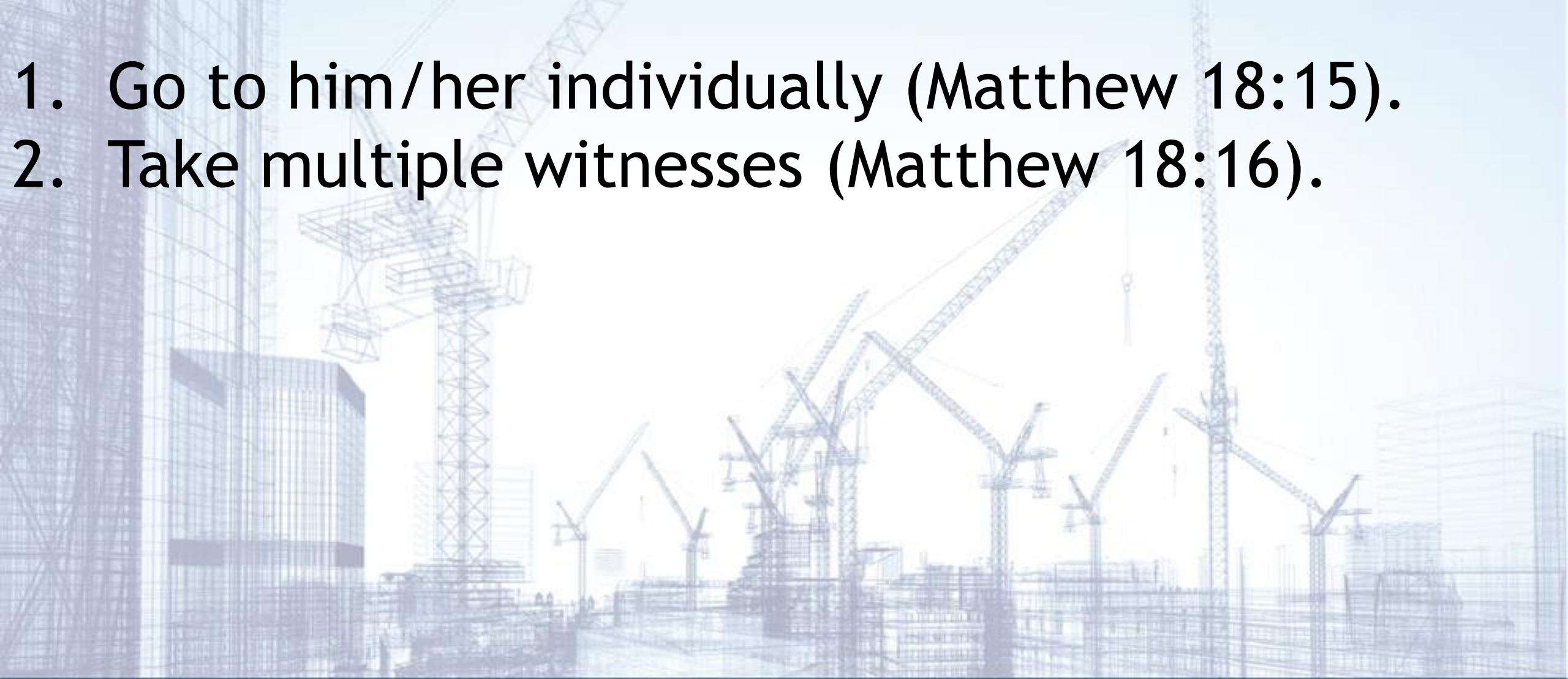
“...Christ and rescue those
in bondage.”

Paul Tautges, *Counseling One Another*

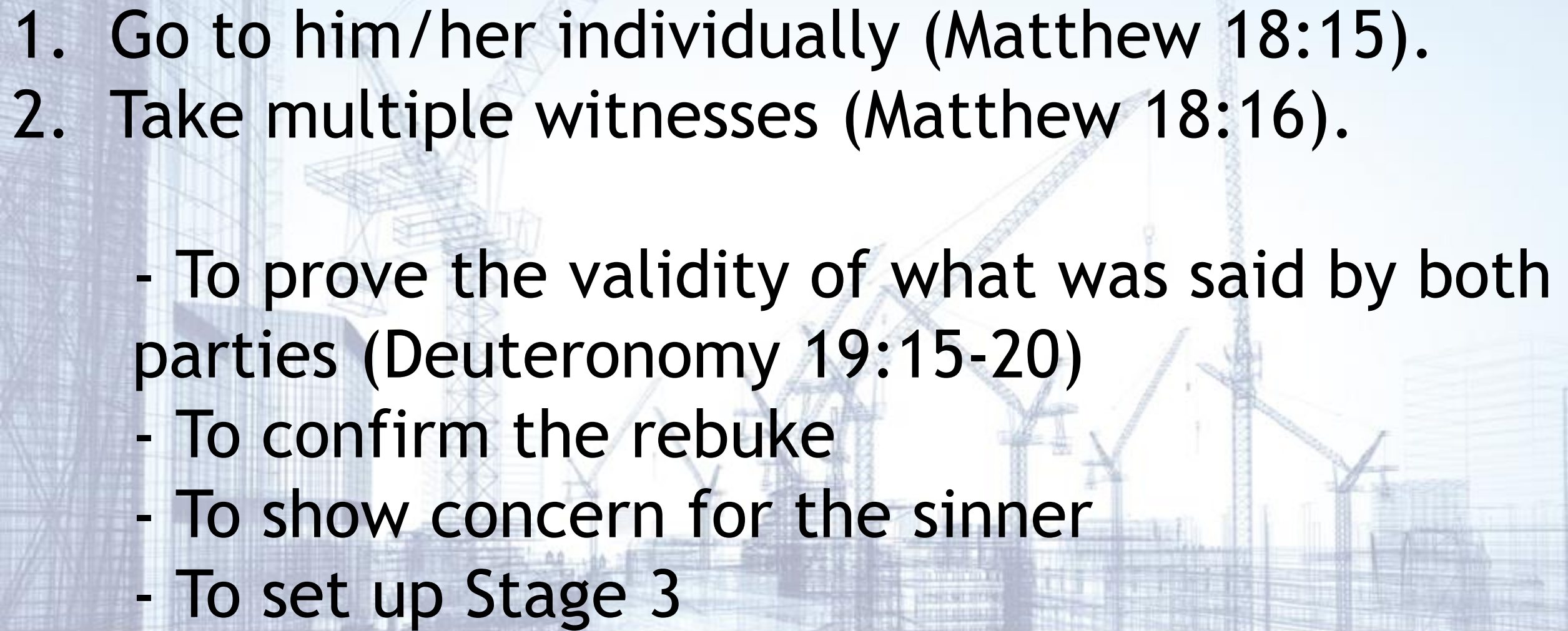


1. Go to him/her individually (Matthew 18:15).

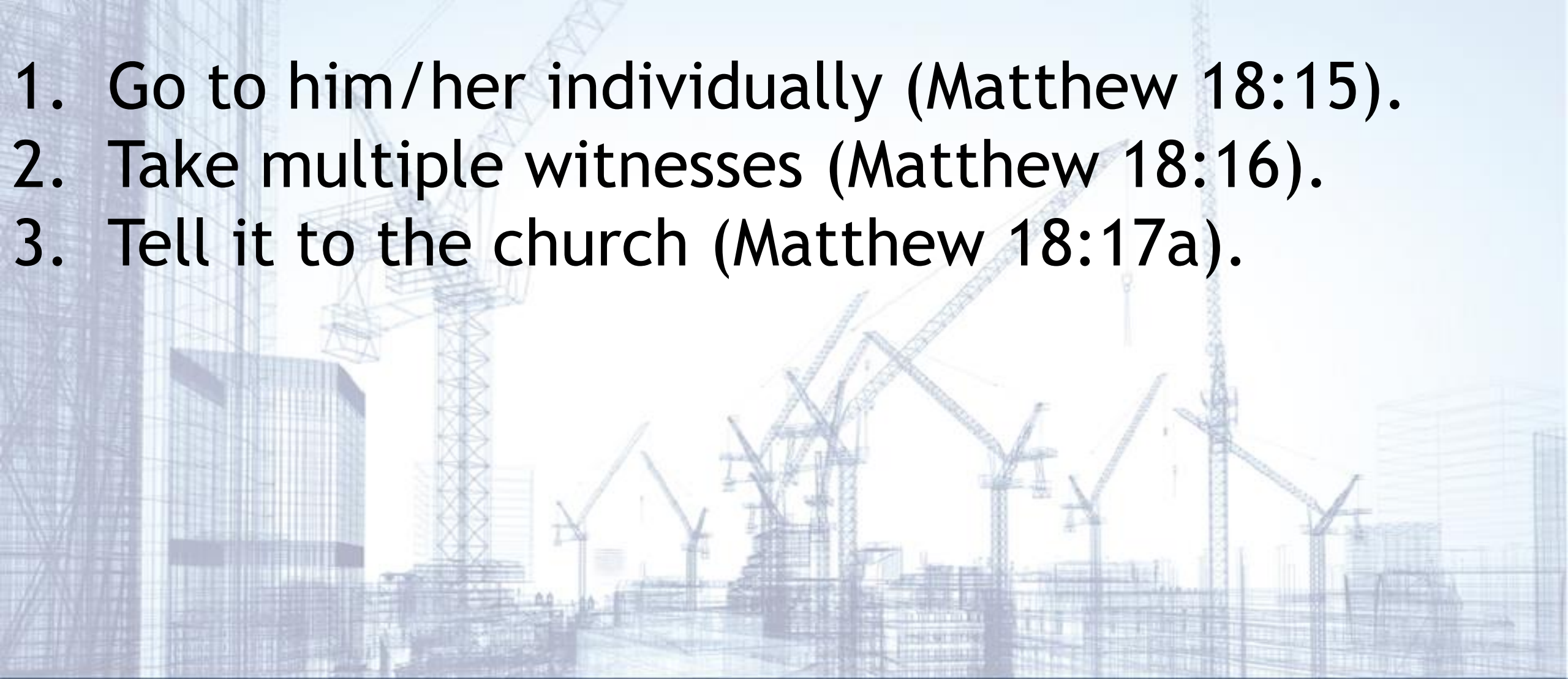
4 Stages of “Church Discipline”

- 
1. Go to him/her individually (Matthew 18:15).
 2. Take multiple witnesses (Matthew 18:16).

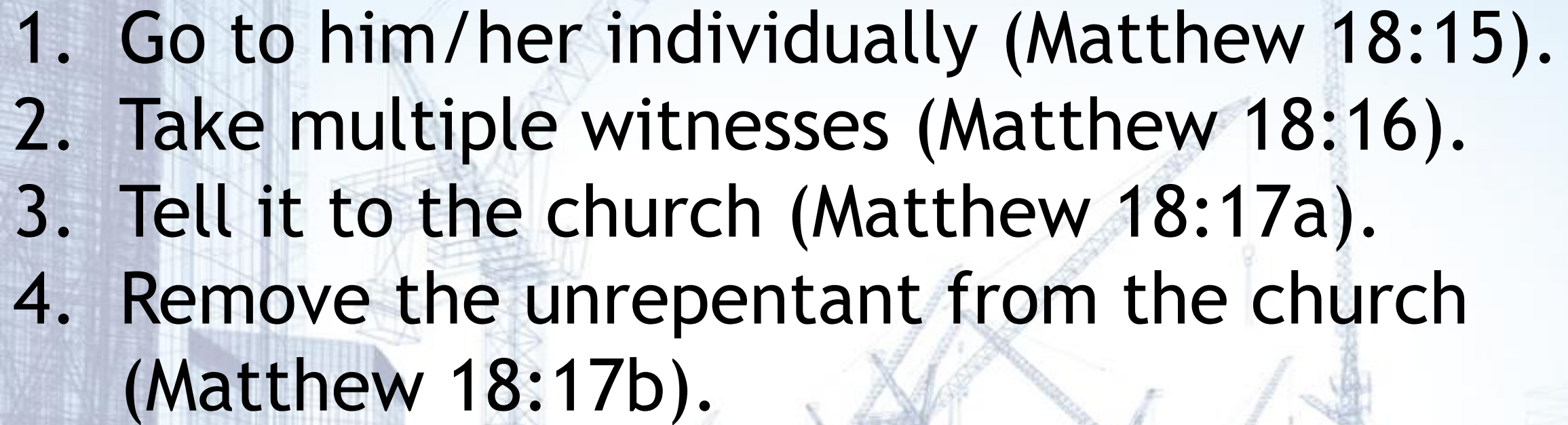
4 Stages of “Church Discipline”

- 
1. Go to him/her individually (Matthew 18:15).
 2. Take multiple witnesses (Matthew 18:16).
 - To prove the validity of what was said by both parties (Deuteronomy 19:15-20)
 - To confirm the rebuke
 - To show concern for the sinner
 - To set up Stage 3

4 Stages of “Church Discipline”

- 
1. Go to him/her individually (Matthew 18:15).
 2. Take multiple witnesses (Matthew 18:16).
 3. Tell it to the church (Matthew 18:17a).

4 Stages of “Church Discipline”

- 
1. Go to him/her individually (Matthew 18:15).
 2. Take multiple witnesses (Matthew 18:16).
 3. Tell it to the church (Matthew 18:17a).
 4. Remove the unrepentant from the church (Matthew 18:17b).

4 Stages of “Church Discipline”

- “We aren’t supposed to be judgmental.”

ANSWER - Our speech and our behavior reflects our heart (Matthew 12:34).

Common Objections to Church Discipline

- 
- “We aren’t supposed to be judgmental.”
 - “This will hurt our church’s reputation.”

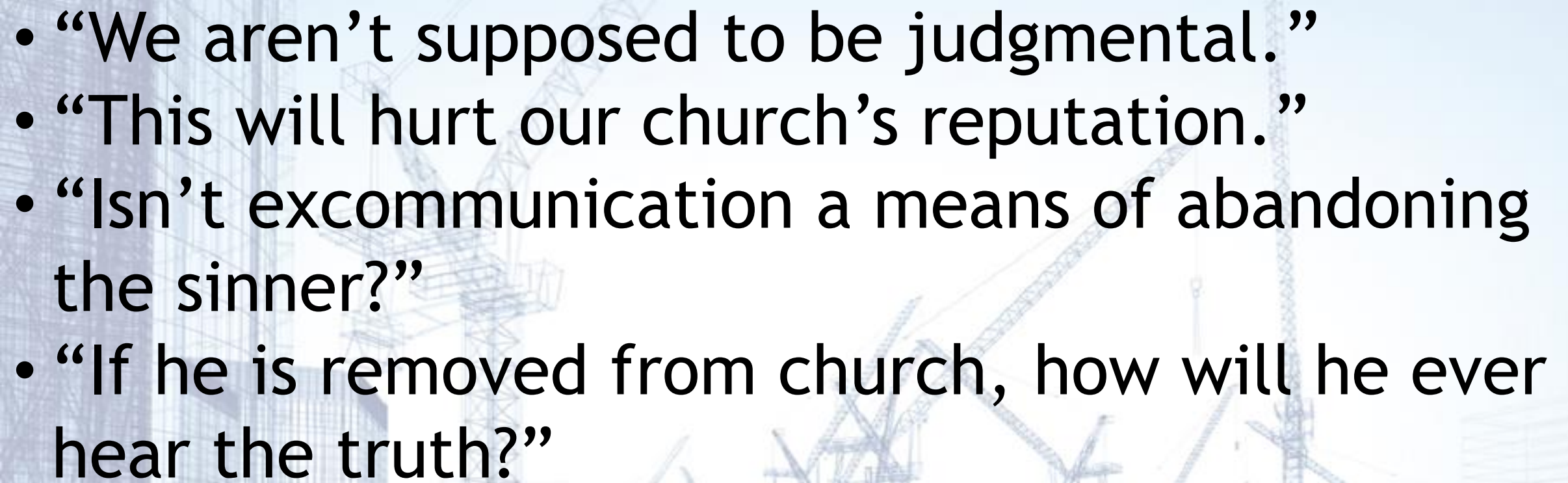
ANSWER – If done unbiblically, it might.
But avoiding it questions the Gospel’s power to deliver us from sin.

Common Objections to Church Discipline

- “We aren’t supposed to be judgmental.”
- “This will hurt our church’s reputation.”
- “Isn’t excommunication a means of abandoning the sinner?”

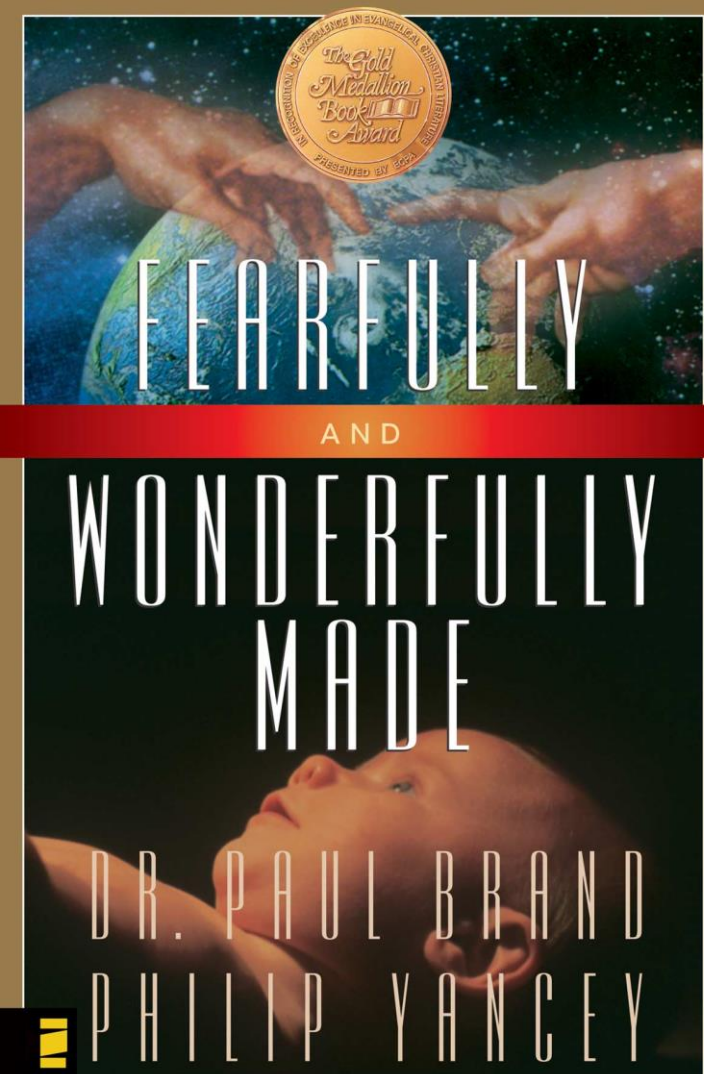
ANSWER - If someone wants to change, we should not turn him away. But excommunication is giving the sinner what he wants, and it’s not Jesus.

Common Objections to Church Discipline

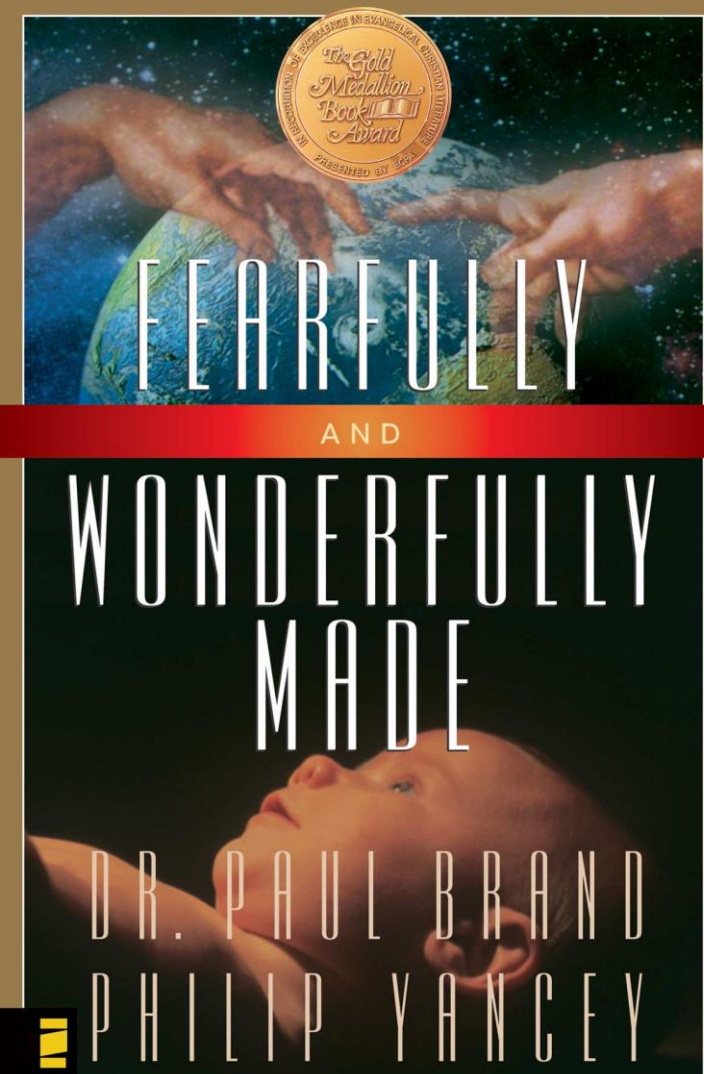
- 
- “We aren’t supposed to be judgmental.”
 - “This will hurt our church’s reputation.”
 - “Isn’t excommunication a means of abandoning the sinner?”
 - “If he is removed from church, how will he ever hear the truth?”

ANSWER - God won’t turn away anyone who seeks after Him (John 6:37). God is sovereign.

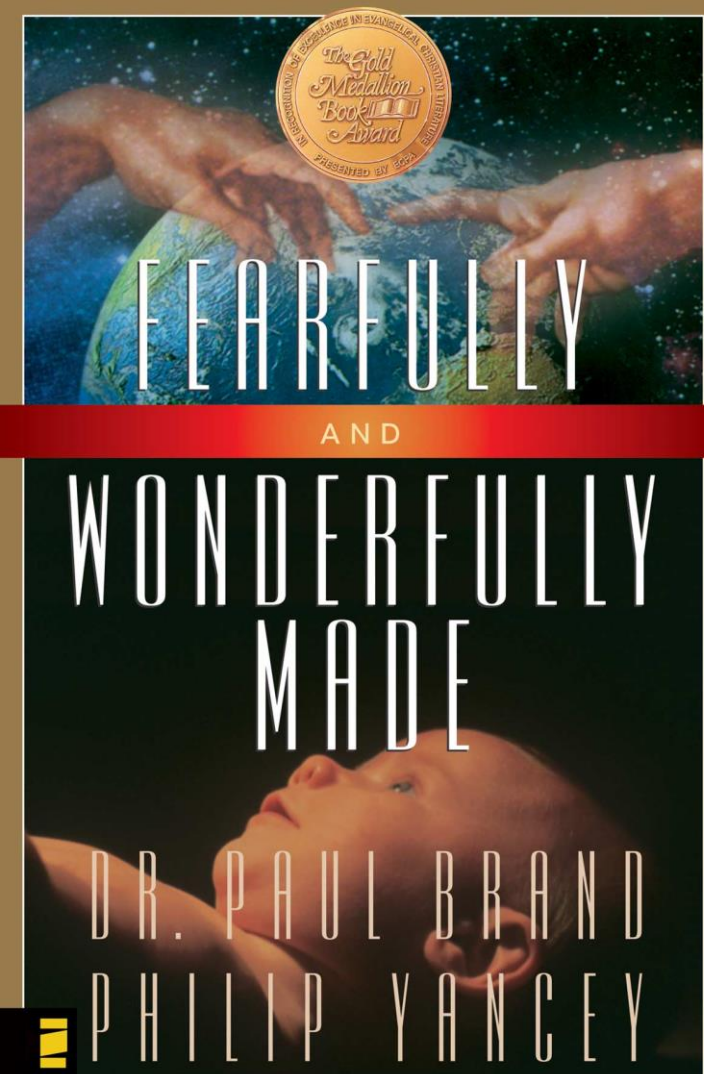
Common Objections to Church Discipline



“When a bone breaks, an elaborate process begins. Excited repair cells invade in swarms. Within two weeks a cartilage-like sheath called callus surrounds the region and cement-laying cells enter the jellied mass. These cells are the osteoblasts, the pothole-fillers ...



“... of the bone Gradually they break down the callus and replace it with fresh bone. In two or three months the fracture site is marking by a mass of new bone that bulges over both sides of the broken ends like a spliced garden hose. Later, surplus material is scavenged so ...

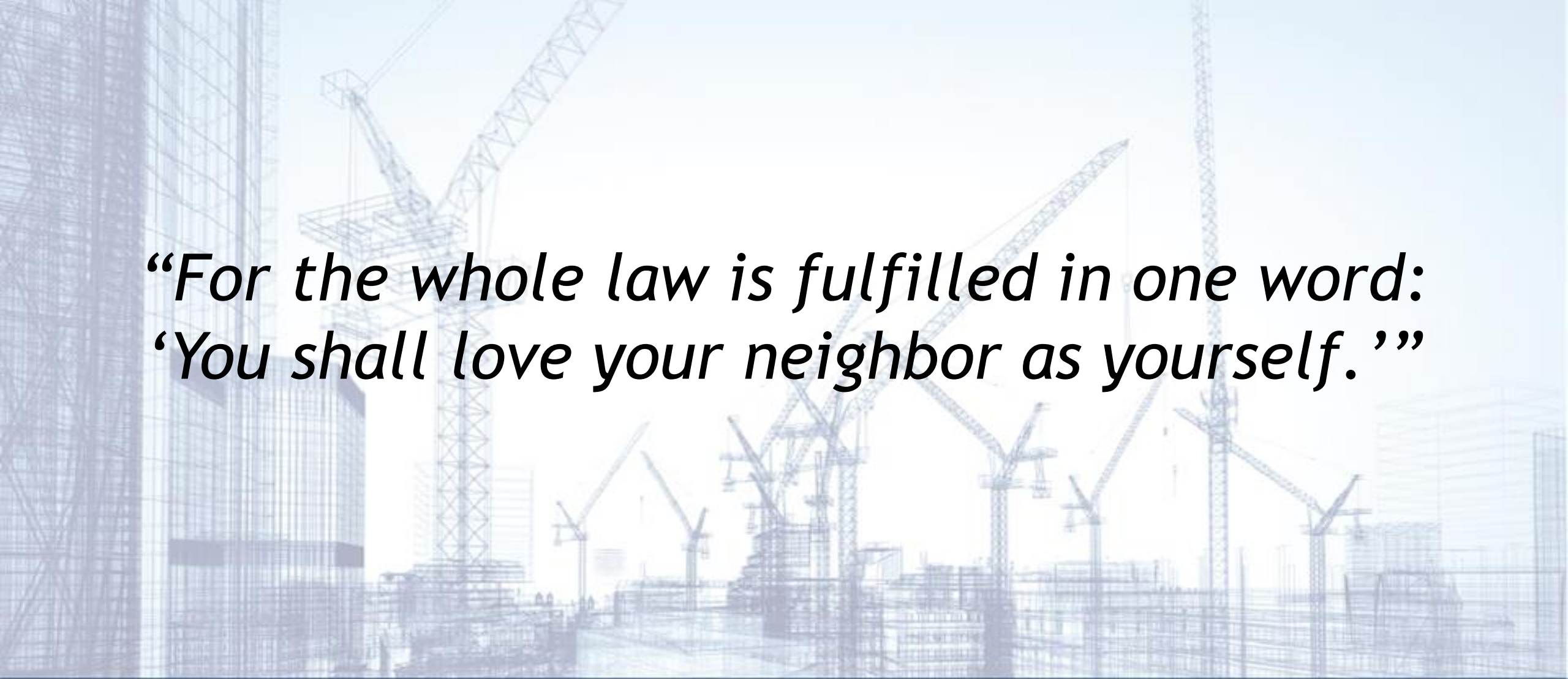


“...the final result nearly matches
the original bone.
That is bone’s normal healing cycle.”

“⁸ Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law.

⁹ For the commandments, ‘You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,’ and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ ¹⁰ Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.”

Romans 13:8-10



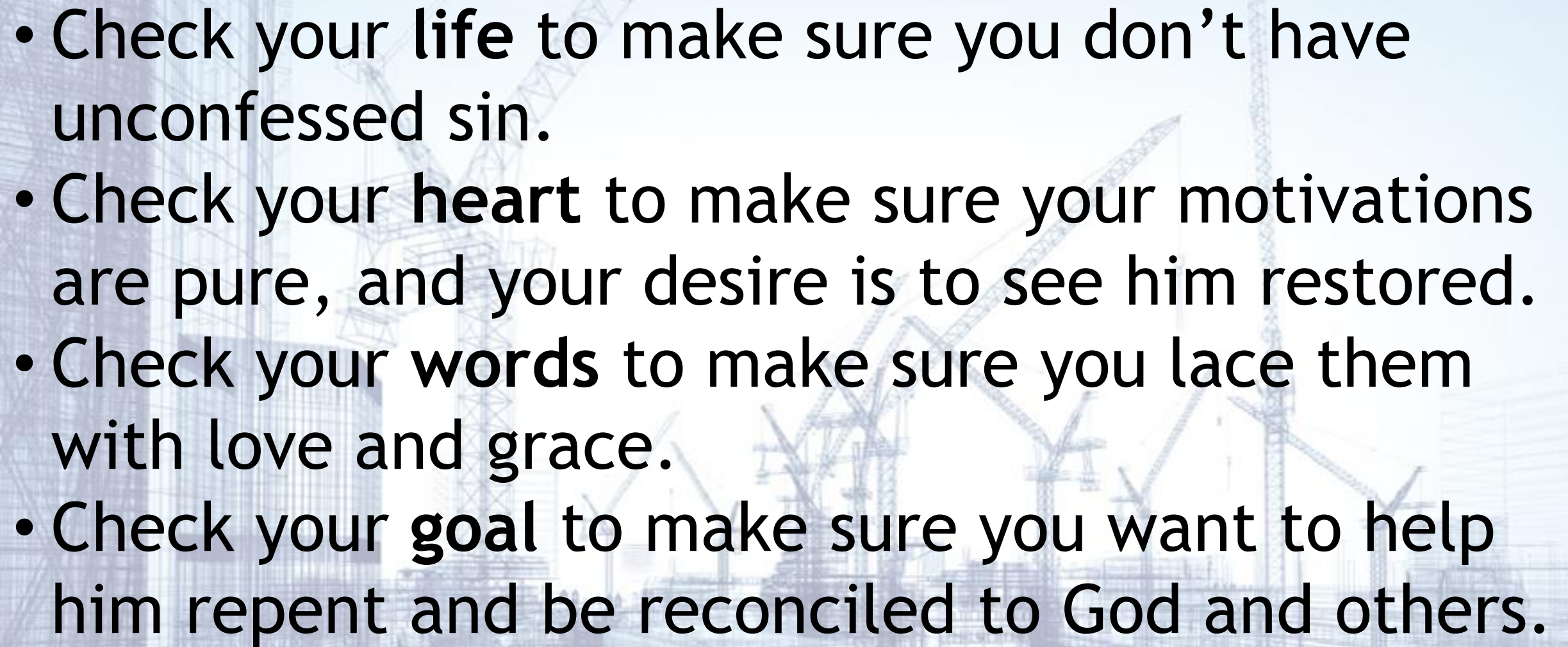
*“For the whole law is fulfilled in one word:
‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’”*

Galatians 5:14



“If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself,’ you are doing well.”

James 2:8

- 
- Check your **life** to make sure you don't have unconfessed sin.
 - Check your **heart** to make sure your motivations are pure, and your desire is to see him restored.
 - Check your **words** to make sure you lace them with love and grace.
 - Check your **goal** to make sure you want to help him repent and be reconciled to God and others.

Before You Rebuke a Fellow
Christian's Sin...



“We should never undertake the task of chiding another’s sin unless, cross-examining our own conscience, we can assure ourselves, before God, that we are acting from love. If reproaches or threats or injuries, voiced by the one you are calling to account,...

St. Augustine, *Commentary on the Epistle to the Galatians*



“...have wounded your spirit, then, for that person to be healed by you, you must not speak till you are healed yourself, lest you act from worldly motives, to hurt, and make your tongue a sinful weapon of evil, returning wrong for wrong, curse for curse. ...

St. Augustine, *Commentary on the Epistle to the Galatians*



“...Whatever you speak out of a wounded spirit is the wrath of an avenger, not the love of an instructor...And if, as often happens, you begin some course of action from love, and are proceeding with it in love, but a differing feeling ...”

St. Augustine, *Commentary on the Epistle to the Galatians*



“... insinuates itself because you are resisted,... deflecting you from reproach of a man’s sin and making you attack the man itself—it were best, while watering the dust with your tears, to remember that we have no right to crow over another’s sin, since we sin in ...”

St. Augustine, *Commentary on the Epistle to the Galatians*



“... the very reproach of sin if
anger at sin is better at making...
us sinners than mercy is at
making us kind.”

St. Augustine, *Commentary on the Epistle
to the Galatians*

“¹⁸ 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. ¹⁹ 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. ²⁰ For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.”

Matthew 18:18-20