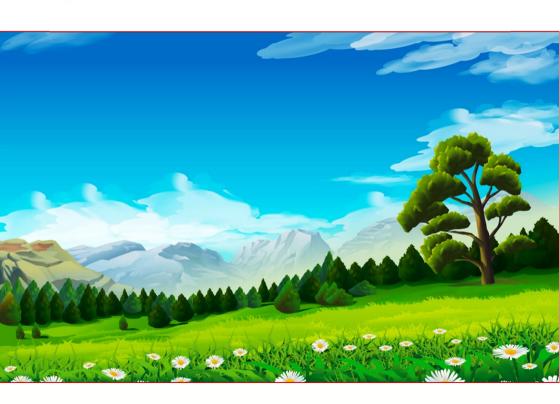
lf you'll just do it God's way!



Bro. William Branham

Matthew 18:15

15. Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother.

Matthew 18:16

16. But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three

witnesses every word may be established.

Matthew 18:17

17. And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as a heathen man and a publican.

Message: 58-0927 - Why Are We Not A Denomination?

195 Now, we can tell you why we take communion, we tell you why we take feetwashing, why we won't let the members take it if we know they're in sin. That's why, this last two or three weeks, I been going from one member to the other, where you been having your little fusses around, too. Going around, one wouldn't speak to the

other, and pass one another on the road and turn your head. Shame on you, who has took the blessed cup of God across this, the altar here, and called you brothers and sisters, and then get on a telephone and gad off about one another. You're not fit to be called Christians when you're that way. Right. You keep off them telephones; if you can't talk good about somebody, don't you talk at all. Remember, God is going

to hold you responsible. As long as that kind of spirit is in you, you know you're not right with God. If you don't feel...

196 If a man is in the wrong, go to him and be reconciled. If you can't be reconciled, take somebody with you. No wonder God can't discipline His Church, 'cause you're not doing it right. Instead of getting on the phone and talking about this one, what taken place, and little cults and so forth, around

like that. Instead of doing that, why don't you do what the Bible says? If some brother has been overtaken in a fault, go to him and see if you can't get reconciled with him. "Well, now, he did me!" I don't care what he did, go to him anyhow! It didn't say for him to come to you. You go to him if he's wrong. You say, "Well, he was in the wrong. He ought to come to me." That's not what the Bible said. The Bible said

for you to go to him. If he's wrong, you go to him.

197 And then if he won't listen to you, then take somebody with you, as a witness.

198 And then if he won't see that witness, then say, "Now I'll take your pastor." Then you tell him, say, "I'm going to tell it to the church, and in thirty days from now, if you brethren haven't made that up...This brother here is willing to be reconciled. You

won't do it. And if you won't make that up within thirty days, then what's going to happen? You're no more one of us."

199 The Bible said, "If he won't hear the church, then let him be unto you as a heathen and a publican." You see, as long as a brother is under that protection of the church, the Blood of Christ is protecting him. That's the reason we don't get the church rolling on the way it does. Now, right,

This is the Doctrine of the Bap-...of the Baptist church, or the Branham Tabernacle here, if you'll do it. See, why can't...

200 You get here, say, for instance, two men, say Leo and I. Will you have me...And I say, "Well, he—he wronged me." That don't make any difference. I'm supposed to go to him. Well, he's a member of this church. He's—he's become a Christian. He's taken the communion here at the rail with me. And we've been baptized in the Name of the Lord Jesus. Walked upright, as brothers, before each other, then something happens.

201 It ain't the man. Ninety percent of the time it's the devil got between the people. It ain't the people. It's the devil. And as long as you let the devil doing that, you're harming your brother. That's right.

202 Well, something is wrong with Leo and I; let's go make it up. And if you see there's something, it's your duty to come to us, and say, "Both you boys come here and get together. We're going to straighten this thing up." Now, then, if he comes to there, and there come to find out, then, here we are. I say, "Well, first thing, if we-we can't agree, then you come to the church like that."

203 And then as—as long as you don't do nothing about it, though, the Blood of Jesus Christ protects us both. See? But then that—that old cancer will start another cancer, and that cancer will start another cancer, and the whole thing will be sick, all over, the whole church. Then you get to a place you come into church, and just as cold, you'll have to have the janitor come break the icicles out, 'fore the congregation can get in. Now,

you know that's right. And cold! Somebody set around, you know, and just don't say nothing. "Well, we used to be so spiritual." Well, what happened? You did run well, what was the matter? See, your sin separates you. And God will hold you responsible for it, brethren. Now I'll straighten this thing up.

204 Nothing wrong with me, nothing wrong with Leo; it's the devil got between us. That's right. Get the thing

straightened out. Go to him. Then if he won't listen, or I won't listen, whichever way it is, then tell it to the church. If he don't come be reconciled to that church in thirty days, then he's out from under the protection of Jesus. We loose him. That's exactly right. Then watch what takes place. Let God do the discipline then. You got your hands off. You done the best you could. Then let God have him for a little bit; He'll turn him over to the devil.

He will come then. If he don't, his life is just a short span.

205 You remember in the Bible, where there was a brother that wouldn't get right with God? How many remembers the case? He lived with his foster mother, and they couldn't get him straightened out. Paul said, "Turn him over to the devil, for the destruction." You find out, in Second Corinthians, he got straightened out.

206 I've got a brother, a good friend, I like here to call his name, a preacher brother. And this preacher brother, his name is Brother Rasmussen. Many of you ministers sitting here, tonight, his name is on your papers. Is that interdenominational out of Chicago. And look. He had a boy, minister, and he went and married a Catholic girl, and started off like that. And they was going to do this, that, and the other, and—and what all; got in some trouble. And his daddy went to him, said, "Now look, son, are you going to be reconciled?"

Said, "Daddy..."

He called their church a bunch of holy-rollers, his daddy. He said, "Now, look, are you going to straighten that thing up with this church?"

207 He said, "Now, daddy, you're my daddy, and I don't

want to get in any trouble with you." All right.

208 He went and got one of the deacons and went down to his house. Said said, "Wesley, I want to talk to you." Said, "Are you going to straighten this thing up with the church?" And he give him a short two-answer like that. Said, "Remember, Wesley, I'm the pastor of that church. I'm your daddy, but I'm going to do what God says do. I'm giving you thirty days to make

that right with that church, or we'll excommunicate you from the Presence of God. You're my own son; that's Saviour." Said, "I love you. And you know I love you, Wesley. I'd die right now for you. But you got to come straight with God's Word. See?" He said, "I'm the pastor. I'm the shepherd of that flock. If you're my child, or whoever you are, you got to line up with God's Word. If you don't do it, then I'm not fit to be His shepherd."

209 Boy, that's a pastor. That's a man. Don't you think so? That's a man. He told his boy that. "And hurt him," he said. But said, "What? Who you going to hurt, the man, or hurt your Saviour? So," he said, "then we went on." And said, "He wouldn't do it. And we...I told the church."

210 He said, "My own son, Wesley, he refuses to hear me, in this matter. He refuses

to hear the deacon. And you're a witness of this, Brother So-and-So?"

"Yes, I am."

"All right. At eight o'clock, next Sunday, four weeks from now, if he hasn't made that right with this church, we turn Wesley, my son, over to the devil, for the destruction of the flesh. His Blood, the Blood of the...of Jesus Christ, and this church, protect him longer."

211 And that night come. Stood on the pulpit, said, "He's got two more minutes." The time come. He said, "Now, as my son, Wesley Rasmussen...said to this congregation, to You, Almighty God: We've done all we can do, according to Your Words and instructions of Your—Your Son, our Saviour, has left us. We now, I turn my boy, and this church with me, over to the des-...to the devil, for the destruction of his flesh,

that his soul would be saved." That's all was said. Nothing went on, for a week or two, maybe a month or two.

212 One night, old Wesley took sick. And when he got sick, he kept getting sicker. He called the doctor. The doctor come up and examined him. He had a fever of a hundred and five. He couldn't find no reason for it. Just kept getting sicker. Doctor said, "Boy, I don't know what's happened to you." He didn't

know what to do. Said, "We'll call a specialist." They called a specialist, and the specialist come in there. They took him over to the hospital, examined him, everything else. And said, "I just can't tell you. The boy just—just looks deathly." His wife standing there, crying, everything like that. And the children standing around the bed and everywhere like that. He said, "He's going. That's all." Said,

"His pulse and respiration, it's just going down all the time."

213 He said, "Call daddy." Oh, yes. That's the way to do it. That's it. "Call daddy." And his daddy run out there to the hospital, real quick, to see him. He said, "Daddy, I can't now, but God hears my words. I'll make everything right. I'll make it right. Yes, I will." Yes, sir, brother. Right then his respiration begin to come back normal.

214 And the following Sunday, he was up before the church. He said, "I have sinned before God, in the presence of this church. I refused to hear the pastor's words. I—I refused to hear the deacon here." And said, "I'm asking this church to forgive me for the evil that I have done like that." Said, "God has spared my life." I tell you, he lined up right. Yeah. That's what you got to do, see. See? You, if you'll just do it God's way! See?

215 Now, see, the way we do, we have a board meeting, and we say, "Well, now, should we keep..." I don't say the tabernacle, but I mean us Protestant people. We have a board meeting, and, "What do you think about Jones? What do you think we ought to do with him? I think he would make the Methodist a better member than he does us." There you are. That, that's

wrong. That's the reason we don't have to follow their traditions. And some bishop, we have to call him (eversome...what is, you call him? district man in this Pentecostal church? "district presbyter")—call him in to see the conduct of this man.

216 The Bible tells us what to do. That's the reason we don't fool with their denominations. We stay free from that thing. Amen. Not mad at me, are you? Don't

you do it. All right. I'll probably get some awful good questions tomorrow night. But, well, that's right. See? Remember. Know...

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Rev. William Marrion
Branham