



APRIL 28, 2024  
A CONVERSATIONAL COMMUNITY OF HOLINESS  
MATTHEW 18:15-20

Introduction

WHY do we need to address sin in our community?

HOW do we address sin in our community?

What is the GOAL of addressing sin in our community?

Conclusion

*A disciple of Jesus is someone who is **following** Jesus, is being **changed** by Jesus, and is **committed** to the **mission** of Jesus. (Matthew 4:19)*

**HARBOR OF HOPE**  
CHRISTIAN CHURCH



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## Reflection Questions for Groups or Individuals:

1. How have you seen these verses about approaching others about their sin implemented? Did those experiences leave you feeling encouraged? Discouraged?
2. We said that the reason why Jesus wants us to address sin is because it harms the person sinning and harms the community. How have you experienced the truth of this in your life?
3. Do you see WHY Jesus says we need to talk about sin in the community of the church? How do you respond to this idea?
4. Can you explain the method Jesus provided for dealing with sin? Perhaps come up with a hypothetical situation together and practice what it would look like.
5. How does the idea that the GOAL of this process is reconciled relationships change your understanding of how this process of talking about sin should look?
6. How do you respond to the idea that Jesus commands the church to work out what "holy living" looks like in their context? How do you see us doing that now as the Harbor community in the 21<sup>st</sup> century in Lowell, Massachusetts?
7. Close by praying for each other, to love each other enough to speak up when we see harm being done, and to be a community that makes a goal of relationship over rigid adherence to the rules.

## Discovery Bible Study Method for Groups or Individuals

(for more information on this method of Bible study- see <https://www.dbsguide.org/>)

**1. Talk:** To begin the study, each person answers these questions:

- What are you thankful for?
- What is causing you stress?
- Who needs our help? How can this group help them?

**2. Look Back (session 2+)**

- Retell story from the previous meeting.
- What did you do differently because of this story?
- Who did you tell and what was the reaction?

**3. Read & Re-tell**

- One person reads the Bible passage out loud, and the rest follow along.
- Someone else retells the passage by memory, if possible. Others can fill in what is missing.

**4. Look**

- Read the passage again.
- Discuss what this passage says about God, Jesus or his plan.

**5. Look again**

- Read the passage once more
- Discuss what this passage says about humans
- Discuss what this passage says about being a disciple of Jesus

**6. Inside me**

- According to this study, what am I doing well?
- What do I need to change?

**7. Who else?**

- Who needs to hear this story?
- How can I tell them?
- Who can I invite to study the Bible?

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