

2 Corinthians 2:1-11

How To Love Believers Who Hurt You

1 Corinthians 5

NLT

1 I can hardly believe the report about the sexual immorality going on among you—something that even pagans don't do. I am told that a man in your church is living in sin with his stepmother.

2 You are so proud of yourselves, but you should be mourning in sorrow and shame. And you should remove this man from your fellowship.

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1. Decide To Address Sin With Gentleness **(v1-3)**

David Guzik, Enduring Word Commentary

Paul thought it best to give the Corinthian Christians a little room, and give them space to repent and get their act together. He didn't want to rebuke and admonish them all the time.

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Warren Wiersbe, The Bible Exposition Commentary

Paul knew that his words would wound those he loved, and this brought pain to his heart. But he also knew that there is a big difference between hurting someone and harming him. Sometimes those who love us must hurt us in order to keep us from harming ourselves.

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Proverbs 27

NLT

5 An open rebuke is better than hidden love!

6 Wounds from a sincere friend are better than many kisses from an enemy.

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**How To Love
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1. Decide To Address Sin With Gentleness (v1-3)
2. Trust God's Process To Produce Repentance (v4-6)

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2. Trust God's Process To Produce Repentance **(v4-6)**

Matthew 18

NLT

15 “If another believer sins against you, go privately and point out the offense. If the other person listens and confesses it, you have won that person back.

16 But if you are unsuccessful, take one or two others with you and go back again, so that everything you say may be confirmed by two or three witnesses.

17 If the person still refuses to listen, take your case to the church. Then if he or she won't accept the church's decision, treat that person as a pagan or a corrupt tax collector.

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Timeframe Of Events In Corinth

- 53 A.D. Paul Brought The Gospel To Corinth (Acts 18)
- 55 A.D. Paul Wrote A Letter To Corinth (1 Corinthians 5:9)
- 57 A.D. Chloe From Corinth Visits Paul (1 Corinthians 1:11)
- 57 A.D. Paul Wrote 1 Corinthians
- 57 A.D. Paul Visited Corinth (2nd Time)
- 57 A.D. Paul Sent Titus To Corinth With A Severe Letter (2 Corinthians 2:4)
- 58 A.D. Paul Wrote 2 Corinthians
- 58 A.D. Paul Visited Corinth (3rd Time)

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While in despair of life itself because of persecution in Asia, he was also distressed because of the situation in Corinth. We can appreciate why the letter was written with many tears.

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3 Even though I am not with you in person, I am with you in the Spirit. And as though I were there, I have already passed judgment on this man

4 in the name of the Lord Jesus. You must call a meeting of the church. I will be present with you in spirit, and so will the power of our Lord Jesus.

5 Then you must throw this man out and hand him over to Satan so that his sinful nature will be destroyed and he himself will be saved on the day the Lord returns.

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6 Your boasting about this is terrible. Don't you realize that this sin is like a little yeast that spreads through the whole batch of dough?

7 Get rid of the old "yeast" by removing this wicked person from among you. Then you will be like a fresh batch of dough made without yeast, which is what you really are. Christ, our Passover Lamb, has been sacrificed for us.

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1. Decide To Address Sin With Gentleness (v1-3)
2. Trust God's Process To Produce Repentance (v4-6)
3. Eagerly Embrace The Time To Reconcile (v7-8)

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3. Eagerly Embrace The Time To Reconcile **(v7-8)**

Luke 17

NLT

3 So watch yourselves! “If another believer sins, rebuke that person; then if there is repentance, forgive.

4 Even if that person wrongs you seven times a day and each time turns again and asks forgiveness, you must forgive.”

5 The apostles said to the Lord, “Show us how to increase our faith.”

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3. Eagerly Embrace The Time To Reconcile **(v7-8)**

They were just as wrong in withholding forgiveness and restoration to the man when he repented as they were to welcome him with open, approving arms when he was in sin. The Corinthian Christians found it easy to err on either extreme, either being too lenient or too harsh.

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John 10

NLT

10 The thief's purpose is to steal and kill and destroy. My purpose is to give them a rich and satisfying life.

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4. Outsmart Satan With Forgiveness
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