

**As a follower of Jesus Christ you have a responsibility to...**

**Restore sinning believers and strengthen the church (15-20)**

Steps to restoration of a fellow Christian who is sinning:

1. When aware of another's sin, you must act.
2. You must show them privately, acting alone.
3. If no repentance, you must take one or two others to establish the charge.
4. If still no repentance, you must expose it to the church (to the extent of that person's ministry).
5. If still no repentance, you must break fellowship with them with the hope of future repentance.

5 ways some Christians don't do what Scripture says:

1. We judge motives (assuming why they are doing what they are doing).
2. We tell others first (gossip, often as a prayer request).
3. We pile on (vs. keeping it to that one thing).
4. We get bitter, resentful (avoiding them, maybe by going to another service).
5. We lack prayer (so our heart is not right).

**Completely and continually forgive others (21-35)**

***Discussion Questions:***

1. Have you observed a fellow Christian sinning in the past?  
Did you follow the above steps for restoration?  
What were the results? How many steps did you have to follow?
2. Have you observed a time when the above steps were not followed?  
What was done differently?  
What was the result?
3. Why might a Christian not forgive someone?  
Why are these reasons not acceptable?

***Accountability questions:***

Do you know a fellow Christian who has sinned and yet you have not acted?  
Why are you not acting? When will you act?

Do you know a Christian who is caught in sin and you have acted, though not following the above steps?  
What do you need to do this week to try to make it right?

Is there someone you have not forgiven? Why not?  
Will you forgive that person today?