

Reflection Question of the Week

Gospel: Matthew 18:15-20

**23rd Sunday in
Ordinary Time**

September 6, 2026

What can you do when you are upset with a friend instead of staying mad at them?

Children

Think of a time when a relationship was strained or broken. What might Jesus' teaching about speaking honestly, listening, and seeking reconciliation ask of you?

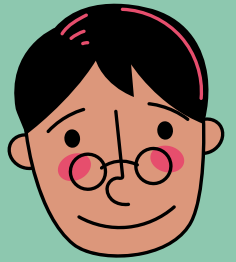
Adults

When someone hurts you, what makes it hard to talk honestly with them – and what might help you take that first step?

Teens

When there is a disagreement in our family, how can we work toward forgiveness instead of letting the problem grow?

Families





The Word of God

Matthew 18:15-20

Jesus said to his disciples: "If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have won over your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, so that 'every fact may be established on the **testimony** of two or three **witnesses**.' If he refuses to listen to them, tell the church. If he refuses to listen even to the church, then treat him as you would a **Gentile** or a **tax collector**. Amen, 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. Again, amen, I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything for which they are to pray, it shall be granted to them by my heavenly Father. For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

Gospel Glossary

Testimony when someone tells the truth.

A **witness** is a person who sees, hears, or knows something that happened.

A **Gentile** is a non-Jewish person.

A **tax collector** collected money for the Romans and were often hated by the Jews.

Loose means to set something free.

Closing Prayer

Dear God, Thank You for reminding us to love one another, forgive each other, and work together in peace. Help everyone speak kindly, listen with understanding, and make things right when we hurt one another. Thank You for being with us wherever we are. May Your love guide our family and bring us closer to You and to each other. In Jesus' name, amen.