

## **Gospel of Matthew**

- 1. Sermon on the mount**
- 2. Missionary Sermon**
- 3. Sermon of parables**
- 4. (open)**
- 5. Daily life of the church**

### **Key question in the community: What if someone in the community sins against you?**

- **Defend yourself.**
- **Tell everybody in the community what they did.**
  - **Put it out on social media. Facebook, twitter**
- **Find a way to get even.**
  - **Beat their brains out.**
  - **Drop bombs on them?**

**IN today's gospel CHRIST says that if your brother or sister sins against you, BE RECONCILED!**

**HOW?**

- 1. The person who has been offended should sit down one on one.**

**If that works, you have “won over” your brother**

**(another translation: “you have REGAINED your brother”)**

- 2. If the person does not listen, take two or three witnesses along with you.**

**3. If that does not work, tell the church.**

**4. If the person does not listen to the church, treat them as a tax collector or Gentile.**

**THE GOAL IS ALWAYS RECONCILIATION AND COMMUNION.**

**The goal is living in the communion of Father, Son and Spirit.**

**Another example from scripture: How many times should I forgive my brother, seven times? Parable on reconciliation. We have a God who is a God of mercy!**

**Comment on the “Our Father” (Matthew 18)**

**How much spent on bombs?**

**How little spent on negotiations and reconciling strategies.**

**How much spent on training military?**

**How little spent on training people for negotiations.**

**How much spent on wedding celebrations;**

**How little spent on preparing the couple on how to live together and working through disagreements.**

**If your brother or sister has a disagreement with you, go, leave your gift at the altar and first be reconciled with them, then come and offer your gift. (Matt 6)**

**Reconciliation: It is the Catholic thing to do!**

**Reconciliation: It proves we are a disciple of Jesus who gave his life so that we could be reconciled.**