

## HELPING PEOPLE SOLVE PEOPLE PROBLEMS

Problems arise in our life when circumstances make us feel we do not have the ability to accomplish what we want. When your car breaks down, it is a problem because you need to drive the kids to school, go to work, and pickup groceries on the way home. When your boss overlooks you for a promotion, it is a problem because you feel unappreciated and disrespected when you want to feel the opposite. These types of things are not sin in our life, per-say. How we respond to these problems, however, is what can lead to sin.

In Matthew 18:15-17 Jesus gives His formula for solving person-to-person problems:

One: **Keep the matter confidential.**

Two: **Keep the circle small.**

Three: **Be straight forward.**

Four: Be forgiving.

Life is a series of problem-solving opportunities. The problems you face will either defeat you or develop you - depending on how you respond to them.

Solving the Problem of Division

Solving the Problem of Church Discipline

Solving the Problems of Litigation and Immorality

Solving the Problems of Marriage

Solving the Problem of Christian Liberty

Solving the Problems of Worship

Solving the Problems of Spiritual Gifts

Solving the Problem of Doctrinal Soundness

Solving the Problem of the Contribution

When it comes to our problems, there are only four:

1. We have a Theological Problem – our problem with God.
2. We have a Psychological Problem – our problem with ourselves.
3. We have a Sociological Problem – our problem with others.
4. We have an Ecological Problem – our problem with the world in which we live.

