



# Study Guide

for

## CONFLICT RESOLUTION IN THE CHURCH

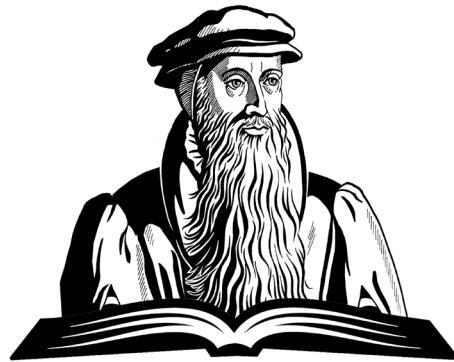
by Rev. A. T. Vergunst

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### *Lecture 3*

## **Repentance, Confession, and Forgiveness**

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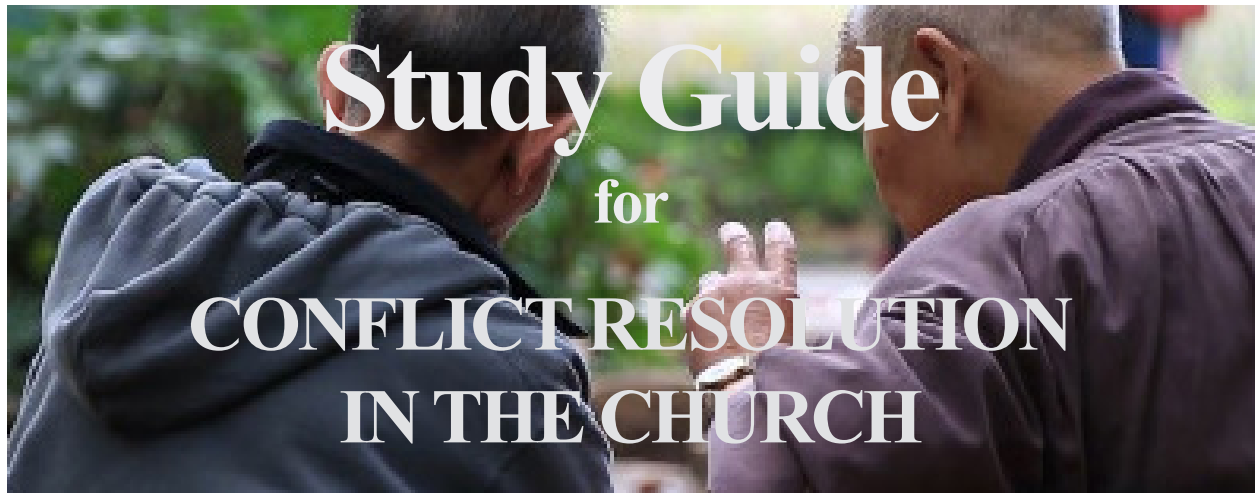
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Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are from the Authorized King James Version.

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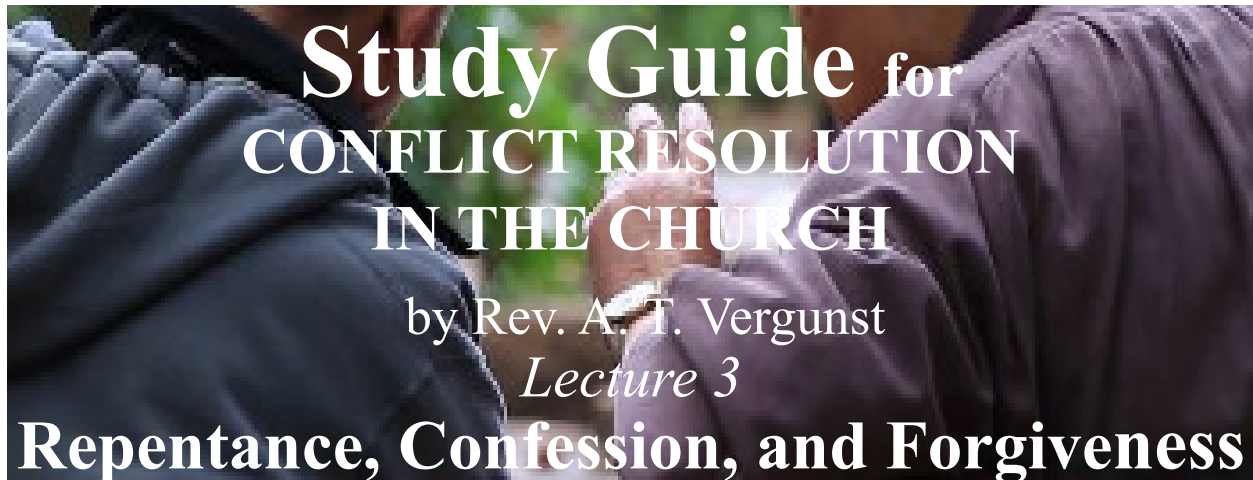
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## Video Lecture Series

by Rev. A. T. Vergunst

1. Introduction
2. Jesus' Instructions on Confrontation
3. Repentance, Confession, & Forgiveness
4. Surrounded with Prayer and Love
5. Excommunication and Restoration



# Study Guide for CONFLICT RESOLUTION IN THE CHURCH

by Rev. A. T. Vergunst  
*Lecture 3*

## Repentance, Confession, and Forgiveness

### Scripture Texts

*“Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother. But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established. And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican.”*

—Matthew 18, verses 15 to 17

### Key Points

1. Five rich benefits that flow from biblical confrontation.
2. Recap of Matthew 18:15 and how to confront on the private level.
  - a. Soaked in love, quick, purposeful, verbal, and private.
3. How our Lord wants us to approach conflicts.
  - a. Paul’s approach – anguish over sin and love for the sinner.
  - b. We need to be meek and gentle, which is the right mindset.
  - c. All confrontations should be soaked in prayer.
4. Jesus’ instructions in Luke 17:1–5.
  - a. Offenses happen in this world, even among God’s people.
  - b. Confession and repentance are defined and explained.
  - c. Forgiveness is commanded if there is repentance.
5. Forgiveness is defined and explained.

- a. Grace and love are needed.
6. The command to forgive seventy times seven.
- a. God forgives us many times more.
7. The infinite cost of forgiveness paid on the cross by Jesus Christ.
- a. Faith in Christ is the foundation of forgiving others.

**Review Questions**

1. What are the five rich benefits that flow from biblical confrontation?

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2. Name the five things needed in biblical confrontation, according to Matthew 18:15.

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3. What was the Apostle Paul's attitude when he confronted the sins of the Corinthian church?

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4. What do we learn from Rev. Vergunst's parable about the Christian brothers, Senior and Junior?

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5. Why is it so important to be gentle and meek when confronting a fellow Christian about sin?

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6. When dealing with the issue of sin, Rev. Vergunst says that we should be soaked in prayer. What does he mean by this, and what should we pray for?

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7. What does the Lord Jesus Christ think about offenses in the church? Does he take it lightly or is it serious? Explain your answer.

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8. What is biblical repentance and confession? Why is it so difficult for us?

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9. What do we learn about forgiveness in the Bible? Why is forgiveness so important among the people of God? Are there times when it is difficult to forgive?

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10. The Lord Jesus told his disciples to forgive “seventy times seven.” Why did they ask him, “Lord, increase our faith”? How does faith affect our ability to forgive others?

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**Personal Applications**

1. The Bible is clear that we are commanded to forgive, but there must first be an expression of repentance by the offending party. Have you ever had someone apologize to you and ask you to forgive them? How did you respond to that? Did you forgive them?

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2. Have you ever experienced the peace, joy, and freedom of true repentance, confession, and forgiveness with a fellow Christian brother or sister? What do you remember most about it? What did you learn from that experience?

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