

## WHEN YOUR BROTHER IS A BOTHER

*Gal 2: 11-21*

“They cannot be counted on. They cannot be trusted long-term; they shift with the wind; changing allegiances as much as a 16 year old girl changes clothes before her date arrives. They vacillate, contradict themselves, they may even tell a little as needed to cover their tracks relationally.” (A fair weather friend)

These are three great temptations today:

- 1) To try to earn God's f\_\_\_\_\_
- 2) To try to earn the a\_\_\_\_\_ of other people
- 3) To use some little achievement or progress on our part to c\_\_\_\_\_ ourselves with those around us

“A famous name can never justify and infamous relational action.”

*Luke 9:51-56*

“A negative spirit is a dangerous spirit because it divides rather than deepens the connection between people.”

*James 3:9-10*

Protecting Unity

- 1) Treat c\_\_\_\_\_ as a serious matter: Ps. 119:165
- 2) Ask the person coming to you, have you been to \_\_\_\_\_ (name of person they want to talk to you about). Titus 3:3, Gal. 2:11, James 4:11
- 3) If they have not been to the other person, stop the c\_\_\_\_\_ and say, “Let's go together and talk to them. Matthew 12:36
- 4) If a person is d\_\_\_\_\_, warn them. Titus 3:9-11, Mt. 7:1-2
- 5) When a person persists in this behavior it needs to be confronted in love but f\_\_\_\_\_.

**WE ARE ALL A MESS**