

# MAKING JESUS THE LORD OF MY LIFE--LESSON 4A

## MAKING JESUS LORD IN MY RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHERS

**Introduction:** To begin this lesson, read Matthew 18 and Romans 12:14-21.

- Satan wants to divide people and make enemies. Jesus wants to unite people and make peace.
- Christians should not be slaves to anger and resentment as many other people are.
- Broken relationships serve Satan and hurt the work of Jesus in saving the world.
- Imperfect human beings will always have their differences and problems with each other. But Jesus teaches us how to avoid many problems and quickly solve the ones that do come.

1. **The greatest cause of conflicts between people is pride and self-centeredness.**  
Matthew 18:1-5.

- What were Jesus' disciples arguing about? Matthew 18:1, Luke 22:24  
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- If we are always concerned about who is the greatest, rightest, best, smartest, richest, most loved, has most authority, should be treated best, etc., will we be more likely or less likely to run into conflict with others? \_\_\_\_\_
- According to Jesus, what must we do to "self" if we are to follow him?  
Matthew 16:24, 25 \_\_\_\_\_
- What did Paul say has happened to the "self" of a Christian? Romans 6:6  
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- Did Jesus, our example, insist on his rights, or did he voluntarily lay them down because he loved others? Philippians 2:5-8 \_\_\_\_\_
- Should my main aim be to please myself, or to be redemptive toward others as Jesus was? Romans 15:1-3 \_\_\_\_\_
- If we "bear crosses" and "lose" our lives (or rights) to make it better for others, what will we "find"? Matthew 16:25 \_\_\_\_\_
- What is the guideline for all our relationships? Ephesians 5:21 \_\_\_\_\_
- Is this the way the world thinks? (Are Christians different?)  
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2. **We cannot afford the cost of broken relationships.** Matthew 18:6

- How bad is it for a person to be the cause of offense or sin in another person's life? Matthew 18:6, 7 \_\_\_\_\_
- If I have done wrong to another person and have not cleared up the matter or made it right, what does Jesus say about my worship to God? Matthew 5:23, 24 \_\_\_\_\_
- If a wronged person will not forgive, can he receive the grace and forgiveness of God? Matthew 6: 14, 15 \_\_\_\_\_
- When a person is filled with resentment and bitterness, how do you think it affects the emotional climate of his family or his church? \_\_\_\_\_
- What is necessary before outsiders can believe in Christ and be saved? John 17:20, 21; Philippians 2:14-16 \_\_\_\_\_
- If our fights and divisions disgust outsiders so that they fail to believe in Christ, who will be partly blamed for the loss of their souls on the Day of Judgment? \_\_\_\_\_