

8. **Ask God For Help** (Jas 5:16) “*The _____ fervent prayer of a _____ man availeth much.*” Why? (2 Pet 2:9) “*The Lord _____ to _____ the _____ out of temptations.*” Don’t ask God to remove or solve your problem. Ask for wisdom to solve it. (Jas 1:5-6) “*If any of you lack _____, let him ask of God---and it _____ given him. But let him ask _____, nothing wavering.*” Ask that doors of opportunity to be opened. Trust God! (Rom 8:28) “*We know that all things _____ to them that _____ God.*” Remember: (1 Jn 5:3) “*For this is the _____ of _____, that we _____ his commandments.*” The key: Keep rather than abandon them.
9. **Use Common Sense – Ask Brethren To Help** The day and age of miracles is long past. Miracles happened instantaneously. It takes time to solve problems. Don’t be impatient. (Jas 1:3) “*Knowing this, that the _____ worketh patience.*” Use common sense as you look and work for a solution. Don’t be too proud to ask a Christian brother or sister to help you. This fits Christ’s will. (Gal 6:2) “*Bear ye one another’s _____, and so _____ the law of Christ.*” Perhaps they have had prior experience with the very problem you are now facing. Remember: (Eccl 4:9-10) “*_____ are better than _____---For if they _____, the one will _____ his fellow.*”
10. **Problems Involving Someone Else** Others are often the cause of our problems. Usually, but not always, we magnify these offenses to a greater degree than we should. Some people (Mt 23:24) “*strain at a _____, and swallow a _____.*” Don’t be guilty of exaggerating the problem’s scope. If someone has committed an offense against you (Mt 18:15-17) “*_____ and _____ his fault between _____ and _____ alone.*” This is the remedy Jesus prescribed for Christians but this part of the passage is applicable in all cases. Don’t broadcast it! Keep it private and away from the busybodies who love to *make mountains out of molehills*. Solve it quickly if possible.
11. **Problems Involving Christians** (V16) “*But if he will not _____, then take with thee _____ or _____ more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses _____ may be established.*” Note that Jesus still doesn’t want this matter to turn into a public commotion. He employs the OT rule of reliable negotiators and witnesses. If good faith exists on both sides this will settle the matter. If not, (V17) “*tell it unto _____: but if he _____ to hear the church, let him be unto thee as a _____ man and a publican.*” Clearly, our Lord intends for us to handle offenses and solve problems expeditiously. Don’t rush it, but get it done.
12. **Problems Affecting The Local Membership At Large** Paul explains in detail how (1 Cor 12) the (V20) “*one _____*” has “*many _____*” and (V25) “*the _____ should have the same _____ one for another.*” Any problem known to the entire church has potential to harm those (V22) “*which _____ to be _____ feeble.*” Here’s where the elders play an important role. They (1 Pet 5:2-3) “*feed the _____ of God*” willingly, “*taking the _____ thereof*” as “*_____ to the flock.*” This seems best fit the context of (Jas 5:14-16).
13. **Nip It In The Bud** Jesus knew that Judas the Iscariot would betray him (Jn 13:27) and said, “*That thou _____, do _____.*” If something is inevitable, get it over with. That’s why ambulances, fire trucks and emergency vehicles are allowed to exceed the speed limit. That’s why doctors treat patients expeditiously. Get the cancer before it spreads; quench the fire before the house is destroyed. (Jude 22-23) “*And of some have _____, making a difference: And others _____ with _____, pulling them _____.*” This metaphor proves the point. You don’t dilly-dally when you pull someone out of the fire.
14. **Protect The Innocent And Weak** We know that babes, and the weak in body or mind, need special consideration. (Heb 5:13) “*For every one that useth _____ is _____ in the word of righteousness: for he is a _____.*” Don’t weaken or destroy their faith with haranguing. Keep them out of it if possible. (Prov 15:1) “*A _____ answer turneth away _____: but grievous words _____ anger.*” Old men are for counsel, young men for war. Silence the “hotheads.” Protect the vulnerable. (1 Cor 16:14) “*Let all your things _____ with charity.*”