

## TURNING THE TABLES #2

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**Def: "turning the tables"** - If you turn the tables on someone or some situation, you change the situation completely, so that someone or something loses its advantage and you gain the advantage. The dynamic of the relationship or situation is flipped.

**"For what children are not disciplined by their father? If you are not disciplined—and everyone undergoes discipline—then you are not legitimate, not true sons and daughters at all. Moreover, we have all had human fathers who disciplined us and we respected them for it. How much more should we submit to the Father of spirits and live! They disciplined us for a little while as they thought best; but God disciplines us for our good, in order that we may share in his holiness. No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it. Therefore, strengthen your feeble arms and weak knees. 'Make level paths for your feet,' so that the lame may not be disabled, but rather healed."** Hebrews 12:7-13 NIV

**"Why do you call me 'Lord, Lord' and do not do what I say."** Luke 6:46 NIV

THE MESSAGE = \_\_\_\_\_!

### FRIEND OR FAN? CONFRONTING A BROTHER

**The LORD sent Nathan to David. When he came to him, he said, "There were two men in a certain town, one rich and the other poor. The rich man had a very large number of sheep and cattle, but the poor man had nothing except one little ewe lamb he had bought. He raised it, and it grew up with him and his children. It shared his food, drank from his cup and even slept in his arms. It was like a daughter to him. "Now a traveler came to the rich man, but the rich man refrained from taking one of his own sheep or cattle to prepare a meal for the traveler who had come to him. Instead, he took the ewe lamb that belonged to the poor man and prepared it for the one who had come to him." David burned with anger against the man and said to Nathan, "As surely as the LORD lives, the man who did this must die! He must pay for that lamb four times over, because he did such a thing and had no pity." Then Nathan said to David, "You are the man! This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: 'I anointed you king over Israel, and I delivered you from the hand of Saul. I gave your master's house to you, and your master's wives into your arms. I gave you all Israel and Judah. And if all this had been too little, I would have given you even more. Why did you despise the word of the LORD by doing what is evil in his eyes? You struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and took his wife to be your own.'** 1 Samuel 12:1-9 NIV

A TRUE BROTHER \_\_\_\_\_.

**"If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over."** Matthew 18:15

A TRUE BROTHER \_\_\_\_\_.

**"Better is open rebuke than hidden love. Wounds from a friend can be trusted, but an enemy multiplies kisses."**

A TRUE BROTHER \_\_\_\_\_.

**"As for other matters, brothers and sisters, we instructed you how to live in order to please God, as in fact you are living. Now we ask you and urge you in the Lord Jesus to do this more and more. For you know what instructions we gave you by the authority of the Lord Jesus. It is God's will that you should be sanctified: that you should avoid sexual immorality; that each of you should learn to control your own body in a way that is holy and honorable, not in passionate lust like the pagans, who do not know God; and that in this matter no one should wrong or take advantage of a brother or sister. The Lord will punish all those who commit such sins, as we told**

*you and warned you before. For God did not call us to be impure, but to live a holy life. <sup>8</sup> Therefore, anyone who rejects this instruction does not reject a human being but God, the very God who gives you his Holy Spirit.” 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8 NIV*

**A TRUE BROTHER \_\_\_\_\_.**

*“Brothers and sisters, if someone is caught in a sin, you who live by the Spirit should restore that person gently. But watch yourselves, or you also may be tempted. Carry each other’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. If anyone thinks they are something when they are not, they deceive themselves.” Galatians 6:1-3 NIV*

**IN AN “IRON SHARPENS IRON” BROTHERHOOD...**

**BROTHERS \_\_\_\_\_.**

**CONFRONTATION \_\_\_\_\_.**

**REBUKE \_\_\_\_\_.**

**REPENTANCE \_\_\_\_\_.**

*“Confrontation is one of the highest expressions of love. When done in love and compassion, confronting is one of the kindest things you can do for another man. A refusal to confront when needed is one of the most selfish things you can do. The parent who says, “I love my child too much to discipline him,” says in reality, “I love myself too much to discipline.”*

*-Walt Henrichsen from “Thoughts From the Diary of A Desperate Man”*

*“If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. If they were all one part, where would the body be? As it is, there are many parts, but one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, “I don’t need you!” And the head cannot say to the feet, “I don’t need you!” 1 Corinthians 12:17-21 NIV*

**FOR DISCUSSION:**

**HAS THERE BEEN A TIME IN YOUR LIFE WHEN YOU NEEDED A TRUE FRIEND VERSUS A FAN?**

**WHAT IS THE OUTCOME FOR A BROTHERHOOD WHERE MEN OF GOD GO UNCONFRONTED?**

**HOW CAN YOU HELP BUILD A CULTURE WHERE IRON TRULY SHARPENS IRON?**

**WHY DOES EVERY MAN NEED A NATHAN?**

**HOW HAS TODAY’S STUDY CHALLENGED YOU PERSONALLY?**