

**Kingdom Relationships:
Christians are to Care for One Another
Matthew 18:6-9**

Main Point: Causing a believer to stumble in their Christian walk is very serious

Christians are to _____ one another, not to cause one another to _____

Matthew 18:5-6

σκανδαλίζω-to place a _____ block in the way of another, to lead one to stumble as to fall, to lead to sin, to lead another into temptation, to lead one to doubt

This passage teaches the _____ with which God views the causing of one of His children to stumble

I. It would be better to _____ in this life than to face the _____ of God in the next life for causing another believer to stumble (hyperbole)
Matthew 18:6

II. God will _____ all who cause believers to stumble

-Two _____ of Judgment are then pronounced by Jesus for those who cause a believer to stumble

-God will judge the _____
Matthew 18:7

-God will judge the _____ person
Matthew 18:7

III. It would be better to suffer _____ loss in this life than to face the Judgment of God in the next life for causing another believer to stumble (hyperbole)
Matthew 18:8-9

Ways we can place a stumbling block in front of other believers:

1. Leading them into _____ sin
2. Leading them into a sin against their _____
3. Misleading them by _____ using the Scriptures
4. _____ against them
5. Not to live out your _____

“We put offences or stumbling blocks in the way of men’s souls whenever we do anything to keep them back from Christ...we may do it directly, by persecuting, ridiculing, opposing, or dissuading them from decided service to Christ; we may do it indirectly, by living a life inconsistent with our religious profession, and by making Christianity loathsome and distasteful by our own conduct. Whenever we do anything of this kind, it is clear, from our Lord’s words, that we commit a great sin. There is something fearful in this doctrine here laid down: it ought to stir up within us great searching of heart.”

-J.C. Ryle, Expository Thoughts on the Gospels (1856) pg. 221

May we be a body of believers where our love for Christ is seen in our love for one another