

witness, still tithes, & where they wouldn't be a security breach, why not encourage them to do so?—Why should they be excommunicated when a transfer to an easier field might help them get the victories they need, & where they can continue serving the Lord & being a blessing to others?

30. If they've really misbehaved & had some serious problems or disobediences, maybe they'll have to be put down to babe's status. But in most cases they can still be part of the Family, & they can still witness & serve the Lord. Maybe there's an entire family, & maybe the problem is just one of the mates, which granted, is a big problem, & on a tough pioneer field such problems are amplified. But if they were to go to an easier Home field, hopefully they can sort out their personal problems there & continue to serve the Lord. Even if one of them is very weak, do we really want to excommunicate them?

31. Each case really takes individual thought & discussion & prayer! Recently, one of our leaders confessed to our Ambassadors that he had been having some serious problems.—Problems for which others have been excommunicated by him in the past. Well, I didn't even consider excommunicating him. I just considered telling him, "You had better stop that right now!—That's not of the Lord at all! You get the victory over it, & if you don't, you're not going to be able to hold the leadership position we've entrusted you with!"

32. But excommunication never even entered my mind! I just realised that that was his weakness, but I believe his heart is more or less in the right place. I don't think just because someone slips or falls & then confesses it, that we should immediately excommunicate them!

33. A lot depends on exactly what the situation is & what kind of damage the offender is doing, how much influence it's having & upon whom. It depends on how bad it is & who it's affecting, & especially where their hearts are really at, as well as their motivation & desire to get the victory or their lack of desire. You have to prayerfully take all of these things into consideration in order to decide whether it's necessary to completely excommunicate them or put them down to babe's status or just chastise or penalise them by sending them back to their Home field

or whatever. There are actually quite a few alternative choices.

WHEN TO EXCOMMUNICATE!

34. In a serious case where their heart definitely is not in the right place & they're very rebellious & reprobate, when they've stolen things & they've seriously endangered the Work in any way, we certainly don't want to be overly merciful.—Such serious cases need to be dealt with & quickly! When someone is really out of control & causing serious problems that could harm the Work, we need to be able to tell the System authorities, "Look, this guy is out of fellowship with us. We do not agree with his behaviour & actions.—He's not one of us, we've excommunicated him! We are against what he is doing as much as you are, & we no longer even have any fellowship with him. Whatever he says, he is not a part of our organisation, & we've asked him to leave & go back to his Home country!"

35. Really serious crimes & offences that could jeopardise our Work should definitely be excommunicated! Like Dad says, it's, "Get the victory or get out!" Well, we can modify that according to each situation, but when they are rebellious & reprobate & obviously are not even trying to yield & get the victory, they aren't trying to do their best, then the sooner we get rid of them the better!

36. Another reason why it might be better to simply suggest to some people that they go back to their home field is that it might help you to avoid all kinds of terrible problems if you excommunicate them & they decide to turn on you & start waging an aggressive war of revenge against you on the field. By letting them stay in the Family, but on their Home field, it's giving them another chance.—And if their serious problems continue there, then they could be excommunicated. But we should give them a little bit of time after they get back to see if they're going to straighten up.

37. Because most of our former Chain leadership was pretty unmerciful, when our Ambassadors go into a new situation, they almost have to bend over backwards & go to the other extreme of showing the people a lot of love, mercy & forgiveness.