



DISCIPLINE



DISCIPLINE
is part of
"DISCIPLESHIP"



FAVORITE VERSE OF MANY

Matthew 7:1

Do not judge, or you too will be judged.

ONE OF MOST IGNORED VERSES

2 Corinthians 13:5

Examine yourselves to see whether you are in the faith; test yourselves. Do you not realize that Christ Jesus is in you - -unless, of course, you fail the test?

The Nature of Church Discipline

1 Corinthians 5:11-13

But now I am writing you that you must not associate with anyone who calls himself a brother but is sexually immoral or greedy, an idolater or a slanderer, a drunkard or a swindler. With such a man do not even eat. What business is it of mine to judge those outside the church? **Are you not to judge those inside?** God will judge those outside. "Expel the wicked man from among you."

"Church discipline is the confrontative and corrective measures taken by an individual, church leaders, or the congregation regarding a matter of sin in the life of a believer."

- J. Carl Laney

Hebrews 12:4-11 (GNB)

"For in your struggle against sin you have not yet had to resist to the point of being killed. Have you forgotten the encouraging words which God speaks to you as his children? "My child, pay attention when the Lord corrects you, and do not be discouraged when he rebukes you. Because the Lord corrects everyone he loves, and punishes everyone he accepts as a child."

"...Endure what you suffer as being a father's punishment...your suffering shows that God is treating you as his children. Was there ever a child who was not punished by his father? If you are not punished, as all his children are, it means you are not real children, but bastards. In the case of our human fathers, they punished us and we respected them. How much more, then, should we submit to our spiritual Father and live! ..."

"...Our human fathers punished us for a short time, as it seemed right to them but God does it for our own good, so that we may share his holiness. When we are punished, it seems to us at the time something to make us sad, not glad. Later, however, those who have been disciplined by such punishment reap the peaceful reward of a righteous life."

Church Discipline
should not be
vindictive and
punitive but rather
RESTORATIVE



DON'T BE TRIGGER-HAPPY!

2 Corinthians 2:5-8

If anyone has caused grief, he has not so much grieved me as he has grieved all of you to some extent—not to put it too severely. The punishment inflicted on him by the majority is sufficient. Now instead, you ought to forgive and comfort him, so that he will not be overwhelmed by excessive sorrow. I urge you, therefore, to reaffirm your love for him.

Corrective Discipline
PROCEDURES

Matthew 18:15-20

If your brother sins against you, go and show him his fault, just between the two of you. If he listens to you, you have won your brother over. But if he will not listen, take one or two others along, so that 'every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.' If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if he refuses to listen even to the church, treat him as you would a pagan or a tax collector.

I tell you the truth, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything you ask for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them.

Private REPROOF- show him his fault between the two of you only.



The **OFFENDED** believer is responsible to arrange a private meeting and confront the erring brother/sister (Galatians 6:1, Leviticus 19:17)

Proverbs 27:5 (GNB)

Better to correct someone openly than to let him think you don't care for him at all. Friends mean well, even when they hurt you. But when an enemy puts his arm around your shoulder---watch out!



THE ONE-MINUTE REPRIMAND

Kenneth Blanchard and Spencer Johnson (The One Minute Manager)

1. Reprimand people immediately.
2. Tell people what they did wrong- be specific.
3. Tell people how you feel about what they did wrong.
4. Shake hands and let them know that you are on their side.

5. Remind them how much you value them.
6. Reaffirm that you think well of them, but not of their performance in this situation.
7. Realize that when the reprimand is over, it's over.



Private CONFERENCE- take one or two others along

An illustration showing a red sign with the word "CLOSED" in white capital letters. The sign is hanging from a yellow string. In the background, there are silhouettes of several people sitting at a table, suggesting a meeting or conference.

1 Timothy 5:19-20

Do not entertain an accusation against an elder unless it is brought by two or three witnesses. Those who sin are to be rebuked publicly, so that the others may take warning.

Public ANNOUNCEMENT- tell it to church members

An illustration of a public announcement. A yellow 3D figure stands on a small white podium, addressing a group of white 3D figures. Some of the white figures have their arms raised, suggesting an audience or a group of people.

1 Timothy 4:20

Those who sin are to be rebuked publicly, so that the others may take warning.

2 Thessalonians 3:14-15

If anyone does not obey our instruction in this letter, take special note of him. Do not associate with him, in order that he may feel ashamed. Yet do not regard him as an enemy, but warn him as a brother.

Public EXCLUSION- treat him as you would a pagan or a tax collector



1 Corinthians 5:1-5

"It is actually reported that there is sexual immorality among you, and of a kind that does not occur even among pagans: A man has his father's wife. And you are proud! Shouldn't you rather have been filled with grief and have put out of your fellowship the man who did this?..."

"...hand this man over to Satan, so that the sinful nature may be destroyed and his spirit saved on the day of the Lord."
(1 Tim. 1:20, 2 Cor. 4:4, 2 Thess. 3:5-6)

EXCOMMUNICATION is for erring believer to realize the consequences of his/her actions while living in enemy's domain

A.C.T.S. of REPENTANCE

ADMITTING my Sin – Refusing to Hide, Stop Blaming Others, Grieving Over my Sin (1 John 1:9)

CONFESSING My Sin – From your mouth to God's ears and people's ears, restitution (Phil. 18-19; Matt. 5:23-24)

A.C.T.S. of REPENTANCE

TURNING FROM My Sin – decision to leave the sinful lifestyle, restitution (*Luke 15,19*)

STRENGTHENING Other Sinners, manifest fruit of Spirit (*Psalm 51:12-13, Gal. 5:22-23*)

Psalms 51:12,13

Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me. Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will turn back to you.

MATTHEW 18 DISCIPLINE

1. Private Talk/Reproof
2. Private Conference
3. Public Announcement
4. Public Exclusion

God has **MORAL STANDARDS** that Christians should follow

The Church **cannot be SOFT** on "SIN" and condone its destructive effects

Titus 2:11-12

"For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age..."

In every step of discipline process, **REPENTANCE** must be required

Corrective discipline must be **motivated by LOVE and GRACE** of God

Matthew 18:21-22

Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother when he sins against me? Up to seven times?" Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.

CARE-frontation

REFLECTION POINTS

Have we become too judgmental and vindictive in our ways?

Have we allowed God's love to fill our hearts?

