

**Lesson 20, Part 2**  
**Church Discipline**

**The Principles of Church Discipline**

1. It's patterned after God's love.
2. It accomplishes three things.
  - A. It guards and preserves God's honor.
  - B. It protects the purity of the church and guards others from being harmed.
  - C. It rescues wayward Christians from God's discipline.
3. God views failure to discipline as prideful, hateful, and unloving.

**The \_\_\_\_\_ of church discipline.**

**(Matt. 18:15-20)**

In (2) Jesus called a young child to Himself.

In (3-4) - We enter the kingdom by becoming like little children.

In (5-9) - We are to be protected like little children .

In (10-14) - We are to be cared for like little children.

In (15-17) - We must be disciplined like little children.

Matthew 18:15-17 "And if your brother sins, go and reprove him

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in private; if he listens to you, you have won your brother.<sup>16</sup> “But if he does not listen to you, take one or two more with you, so that by the mouth of two or three witnesses every fact may be confirmed.<sup>17</sup> “And if he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax-gatherer.

Matthew 18:15 “And if your brother sins, **go** and reprove him in private;

### **1. Go to the one you believe has sinned and address them in \_\_\_\_\_.**

1 Peter 4:8 Above all, keep fervent in your love for one another, because love covers a multitude of sins.

### **Why do we start with a one-on-one meeting?**

1. It's possible they didn't actually sin.
2. It avoids any unnecessary embarrassment.
3. A mutual respect and friendship might be forged.

Galatians 2:11 But when Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood condemned.

2 Peter 3:15 and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation; just as also our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given him, wrote to you,

### **How should we approach one who is in sin?**

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**A. In a spirit of \_\_\_\_\_ and meekness.**

Ephesians 4:32 And be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.

Galatians 6:1 Brethren, even if anyone is caught in any trespass, you who are spiritual, restore such a one in a **spirit of gentleness**; each one **looking to yourself**, so that you too will not be tempted.

**B. With a motive of \_\_\_\_\_ not vindictiveness.**

**C. It should take place \_\_\_\_\_.**

**1) To turn the sinning brother from sin to \_\_\_\_\_.**

**2) To head off \_\_\_\_\_ and bitterness by the one offended.**

**3) To keep sin from \_\_\_\_\_.**

1 Corinthians 5:6 Your boasting is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump of dough

**D. It should be \_\_\_\_\_.**

Matthew 18:15 “And if your brother sins, **go** and reprove him in private;

**“Reprove”** [elencho] “\_\_\_\_\_”

**What is required for us to follow through?**

**1. A \_\_\_\_\_ to  
confront those in sin.**

**2. A \_\_\_\_\_ for the things of God.**

John 2:13-16 And the Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.14 And He found in the temple those who were selling oxen and sheep and doves, and the moneychangers seated.15 And He made a scourge of cords, and drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and the oxen; and He poured out the coins of the moneychangers, and overturned their tables;16 and to those who were selling the doves He said, “Take these things away; stop making My Father’s house a house of merchandise.”

**3. A personal humility and \_\_\_\_\_.**

Matthew 7:3-5 “And why do you look at the speck that is in your brother’s eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? 4 “Or how can you say to your brother,

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‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ and behold, the log is in your own eye? 5 “You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother’s eye.

### **What is the goal of the confrontation?**

15b. if he listens to you, you have won your brother.

**“listen to you”**

**“won”** [kerdaino] - **win back something of** \_\_\_\_\_

### **It’s important to hear the whole story.**

Proverbs 18:13–15 He who gives an answer before he hears, It is folly and shame to him. 14 The spirit of a man can endure his sickness, But as for a broken spirit who can bear it? 15 The mind of the prudent acquires knowledge, And the ear of the wise seeks knowledge.

Proverbs 18:17 The first to plead his case seems right, Until another comes and examines him.

**2. Take others with you for a \_\_\_\_\_ meeting.**

16 “But if he does not listen to you, take one or two more with you, so that by the mouth of two or three witnesses every fact may be confirmed.

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Deuteronomy 19:15 “A single witness shall not rise up against a man on account of any iniquity or any sin which he has committed; on the evidence of two or three witnesses a matter shall be confirmed.

**A. It protects against \_\_\_\_\_.**

**B. It helps assure that the goal is met.**

**3. Solicit the effort of the entire \_\_\_\_\_.**

17 “And if he refuses to listen to them, **tell it to the church;**

**4. They are \_\_\_\_\_**

**from the church..**

and if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax-gatherer.

**“Gentile and a tax-gatherer”**

**A. Professing Christians who refuses to repent should**

**be put out of the church and treated as**

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

They should be looked at as outsiders because their behavior indicates that they are outside the Christian faith.

**B. Excommunication is never an \_\_\_\_\_ in itself, but always a means to a hopeful end of repentance.**

**1) It allows \_\_\_\_\_ pressure for repentance.**

**2) It gives \_\_\_\_\_ of holiness to the watching world.**

Acts 5:11 And great fear came over the whole church, and over all who heard of these things.

**5. When a person repents he is to be welcomed back into the fellowship completely \_\_\_\_\_.**

2 Corinthians 2:5-8 But if any has caused sorrow, he has caused sorrow not to me, but in some degree—in order not to say too much—to all of you.<sup>6</sup> Sufficient for such a one is this punishment which was inflicted by the majority,<sup>7</sup> so that on the contrary you should rather forgive and comfort him, lest somehow such a one be overwhelmed by excessive sorrow.<sup>8</sup> Wherefore I urge you to reaffirm your love for him.

**ANSWERS:** process, private, humility, restoration, immediately, holiness, resentment, spreading, delayed, bring to light, willingness, holy zeal, purity, value, semiprivate, false accusations, congregation, excommunicated, unbelievers, end, maximum, testimony, forgiven

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