

Lesson 10. Church Discipline

Resources: Wiersbe, W. W. (1996). *The Bible exposition commentary*. Wheaton, IL: Victor Books.

Gospelcoalition.org

bible.org

Key Passage: 1 Cor 5

- I. Disputes
 - a. Mt 18:15-18
 - b. Don't try to win the _____, try to win the _____ (Wiersbe)
- II. Doctrine
 - a. To those ignorant of the truth. 2 Tim 2:23-26
 - b. To those fighting against the truth. Titus 1:10-14
 - c. If they won't listen. Rom 16:17-18
- III. Overtaken by sin. Gal 6:1-3
- IV. Living in _____
 - a. 1 Cor 5
 - b. Titus 3:10-11
 - c. 2 Thessalonians 3:14 And if any man obey not our word by this epistle, note that man, and have no company with him, that he may be ashamed.
 - d. Don't allow to hold office in the church
 - e. Check with the former pastor if it is a church jumper
 - f. Lay hands on no man suddenly
 - g. Don't go to the extremes. Don't treat them as enemies. Still Brothers
- V. Which Sins?
 - a. Simultaneously outward, significant, and unrepentant

- i. _____ -seen with the eyes or heard with the ears...Can't speculate on the state of the heart.
- ii. _____ -big enough that the church doesn't feel like it can affirm the persons profession of faith
- iii. _____ -Person has been confronted but refuses to heed biblical counsel.

VI. General Notes:

- a. Innocent until proven guilty
- b. Public discipline occurs not because of sin but because of _____.
- c. Don't have to expose every detail of sin
- d. Be considerate not to _____ others inside or outside the church
- e. How fast or slow? Depends on a person's _____ to fight sin.
- f. The goal is always _____
- g. Everyone practices some sort of discipline. Lawyers, teachers, NFL Players, Doctors (crossway.org)
- h. There has to be a _____ _____ 2 Cor. 2:5-8

Some final notes: (Bible.org)

- Non-members: If someone attends regularly and especially if he is involved in any church ministry, we must practice church discipline. The testimony of the church is at stake, and the world doesn't check to see if the person is an official member.
- Leaders should make an effort to contact the brother and warn him that his sin will become public knowledge on a particular date if he doesn't repent before that time.
- Instruct members how to relate to the person. Do not fellowship with the person as if there is no problem. All contact is not forbidden but not the buddy, buddy level that ignores the person's sin. We _____ and want you _____, but we can't _____ what you are doing.

- Don't _____ into your congregation those who are under the discipline of another church.
- To avoid lawsuits, it would be best to spell this out in the constitution of the church.