



May 31, 2009 • Dr. David Platt

REDEMPTIVE COMMUNITY (Part 3)

Matthew 18:15-20; 1 Corinthians 5:1-13; Galatians 6:1-5

As members of The Church at Brook Hills, we affirm this covenant with one another by God's grace, for our good, and ultimately for God's glory...

...We will humbly and gently confront one another and receive correction from one another in accordance with a New Testament understanding of church discipline and restoration (Mt. 18:15-20; 1 Cor. 5:1-13; Gal. 6:1).

Why Not Church Discipline?

- “Church discipline is **legalistic**.”
 - ▶ Church discipline is **loving**...
- “What about Matthew **7:1**?”
 - ▶ Keep going to Matthew **7:5**...
- “People will **leave**.”
 - ▶ This is God's church to **grow**, not ours...
- “We don't **know how** to practice church discipline.”
 - ▶ Then let's **learn how** to practice church discipline...

What is Church Discipline?

- Two Facets of Church Discipline...
 - ▶ **Formative** Church Discipline:
 - Continual training believers receive from the Word in the body of Christ as their lives are transformed into Christlikeness.
 - ▶ **Restorative** Church Discipline:
 - Corrective care taken by the body of Christ in matters of unrepentant sin in a brother or sister's life.
- One Foundation for Church Discipline...
 - ▶ The **grace** of God.

Approaching Church Discipline...

- We need childlike **humility**.
- We need a deep concern for **holiness**.
- We need a passion for the **hurting**.
- We need forgiving **hearts**.

Applying Church Discipline...

- Step One: **Private** Correction.
- Step Two: **Small Group** Clarification.
- Step Three: Church **Admonition**.



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Applying Church Discipline...

- Step One: **Private** Correction.
- Step Two: **Small Group** Clarification.
- Step Three: Church **Admonition**.

- Step Four: Church **Excommunication**.
 - ▶ For the **purity** of the church.
 - Church members are **accountable** ...
 - Before **God**.
 - For **each other**.
 - Church members must be **humble**...
 - Pride: **Toleration** of unrepentant sinners in the church.
 - Humility: **Exclusion** of unrepentant sinners from the church.
 - Church membership is **essential** ...
 - The church **defines** who is a member.
 - Isolation from the church reflects **separation** from Christ.
 - ▶ For the **salvation** of the individual.
 - Isolation from the church reflects **separation** from Christ.
 - The church **defines** who is a member.
 - ▶ For the **glory** of God.
- We will trust in the **authority** of Christ.
 - Church Excommunication
 - The Church
 - The **Restoration** Team
 - The **Elders**
 - We will pray according to the **promise** of Christ.
 - Church Admonishment
 - Small Group Clarification
 - Private Correction
 - We will experience the **presence** of Christ.
 - ▶ Be **intentional**...
 - ▶ Be **careful**.
 - ▶ Be **gentle**.
 - ▶ Be **quick**.
 - ▶ Be **quiet**.
 - ▶ Be **prayerful**.
 - Examine your **motives**.
 - Examine your **life**.
 - ▶ Be **pure**.
 - Is there sin that is hurting the **witness** of the church?
 - Is there sin that is hurting the **unity** of the church?
 - Is there sin that is damaging the **Gospel**?
 - Is there sin that is dishonoring **God**?
 - ▶ Be **humble**.
 - ▶ Be **biblical**.
 - We will honor the **cross** of Christ.
 - ▶ The goal of church discipline is spiritual **restoration**.
- We want a Christ who pardons...
 - ▶ But do we want a Christ who **punishes**?
 - ▶ When we tolerate sin in the church...
 - We _____ the sacrifice of Christ.
 - ▶ The death of Christ on the cross...
 - Transforms our _____ in the church.

- Step Four: Church **Excommunication**.
 - ▶ For the **purity** of the church.
 - Church members are **accountable** ...
 - Before **God**.
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 - Church membership is **essential** ...
 - The church **defines** who is a member.
 - Isolation from the church reflects **separation** from Christ.
 - ▶ For the **salvation** of the individual.
 - ▶ For the **glory** of God.

Church Discipline in Action...

- We will obey with the _____ of Christ.
 - ▶ The goal of church discipline is spiritual _____.
 - ▶ Be _____.
 - ▶ Be _____.
 - Is there sin that is dishonoring _____?
 - Is there sin that is damaging the _____?
 - Is there sin that is hurting the _____ of the church?
 - Is there sin that is hurting the _____ of the church?
 - ▶ Be _____.
 - Examine your _____.
 - Examine your _____.
 - ▶ Be _____.
 - ▶ Be _____.
 - ▶ Be _____.
 - ▶ Be _____.
 - ▶ Be _____.
 - ▶ Be _____...
 - Private Correction
 - Small Group Clarification
 - Church Admonishment
 - The _____ Team
 - The _____
 - The Church
 - Church Excommunication
- We will trust in the _____ of Christ.
- We will pray according to the _____ of Christ.
- We will experience the _____ of Christ.
- We will honor the _____ of Christ.
 - ▶ We want a Christ who pardons...
 - But do we want a Christ who _____?
 - ▶ When we tolerate sin in the church...
 - We _____ the sacrifice of Christ.
 - ▶ The death of Christ on the cross...
 - Transforms our _____ in the church.