



A photograph of a person wearing a blue t-shirt, sitting with their head buried in their hands in a gesture of distress or grief. Another person's hand is placed on their shoulder, offering comfort. The background is a soft-focus indoor setting. The image is overlaid with a teal and blue painterly texture.

# Church Discipline

*Proverbs 3:11-12*



# Why is Discipline Important?

## **The Absence of Discipline is Disorder**

- **1 Corinthians 14:33** – God is not the author of confusion.
- *“But if anyone does not recognize this, he is not recognized.”* (v. 38, NASB)
- **2 Corinthians 10:10-11** – “Law without enforced consequences are merely suggestions.”

**Church discipline enforces the order which God has revealed.**

# Why is Discipline Important?

## **Discipline is the Difference Between Assent and Faith**

- **Luke 6:46** – Jesus' Lordship requires obedience.
- Jesus provided discipline for His disciples to carry out His will – **John 13:13-17; 15:1-2**

**Church discipline provides for true Biblical faith. (cf. James 2:26)**

# Why is Discipline Important?

## **Discipline is the Difference Between Reverence and Contempt**

- Fear of the commandment is necessary, but consequences produce the fear – **Proverbs 13:13-14**
- What would the example of Eve do without the fact that she suffered consequences? – **2 Corinthians 11:3; Genesis 3**

**Church discipline produces reverence/fear for God's word.**



# Why is Discipline Important?

## **Where There is Community There Must Be Discipline**

- What are these without discipline? – Home, work, school, society, military, etc.
- **Common purpose among people requires discipline:**
  - Rules and laws.
  - Rules and laws taught and explained.
  - Consequences for violating rules and laws. (cf. Romans 13:2-5)

**What about the church?**

# God's People & God's Discipline

**God's house has always required  
faithfulness!**

**Hebrews 3**

*“whose house we are if we hold fast the  
confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm to  
the end.”*



# God's People & God's Discipline

## Discipline in the Old Testament

- Adam and Eve – *Genesis 2-3*
- Disobedient in Noah's Time – *Genesis 6*
- Rebellion of Israel at Kadesh – *Numbers 14*
- The Sabbath Breaker – *Numbers 15:32-36*





# God's People & God's Discipline

## Discipline in the Old Testament

- **Moses' Disobedience** – *Numbers 20:7-12*
- **Achan Taking of the Accursed** – *Joshua 7:24-25*
- *Romans 15:4; 1 Corinthians 10:6, 11* – all recorded for us!





# God's People & God's Discipline

## Discipline in the New Testament

- **Ananias and Sapphira** – *Acts 5:1-11*
- **Corinth** – *1 Corinthians 4:18-21; 2 Corinthians 13:1-3*
- **The Sexually Immoral Man at Corinth** – *1 Corinthians 5:1-5*





# God's People & God's Discipline

## Discipline in the New Testament

- **Peter** – *Galatians 2:11-13*
- **Hymenaeus and Alexander** – *1 Timothy 1:18-20*
- **Are we different?** – *1 Corinthians 14:36-38*





# God's People & God's Discipline

## The Law of Christ Sets Forth a Pattern of Church Discipline

- **Matthew 18:15-17** – “go and tell him his fault...take with you one or two more...tell it to the church...let him be to you like a heathen and a tax collector.”
- **Romans 16:17** – “note those who cause divisions and offenses...and avoid them.”
- **1 Corinthians 5** – “he who has done this deed might be taken away from among you...deliver such a one to Satan for the destruction of the flesh...purge out the old leaven...not to keep company with anyone named a brother...not even to eat with such a person.”
- **2 Corinthians 6:14-18** – “Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers...Come out from among them And be separate, says the Lord.”



# God's People & God's Discipline

## The Law of Christ Sets Forth a Pattern of Church Discipline

- **Galatians 6:1-2** – “if a man is overtaken in any trespass...restore such a one”
- **Ephesians 5:11** – “have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them”
- **1 Thessalonians 5:14** – “warn those who are unruly”
- **2 Thessalonians 3:6, 14-15** – “withdraw from every brother who walks disorderly...do not keep company with him, that he may be ashamed...admonish him as a brother.”
- **1 Timothy 5:20** – “Those who are sinning rebuke in the presence of all, that the rest also may fear.”
- **2 Timothy 3:5** – “from such people turn away!”



# God's People & God's Discipline

## The Law of Christ Sets Forth a Pattern of Church Discipline

- **Titus 1:9-11** – “exhort and convict those who contradict...whose mouths must be stopped...rebuke them sharply”
- **Titus 3:10-11** – “Reject a divisive man after the first and second admonition”
- **James 5:19-20** – “he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save a soul from death and cover a multitude of sins.”



# God's People & God's Discipline

## The Law of Christ Sets Forth a Pattern of Church Discipline

- **2 John 9-11** – “If anyone comes to you and does not bring this doctrine, do not receive him into your house nor greet him”
- **Jude 22-23** – “And have mercy on some, who are doubting; save others, snatching them out of the fire; and on some have mercy with fear, hating even the garment polluted by the flesh.” (NASB)

**Do we think there is a better way?**

*1 Samuel 15:22-23*

# Our Options

## **Disobedience**

2 Corinthians 2:9; 1 Corinthians 5:1-2

## **Perversion**

2 Peter 3:16

## **Faithful Obedience**

Revelation 3:7-8



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