

An Introduction To:

CHURCH DISCIPLINE

1 Corinthians 5:6 - Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump?

A wise son *accepts his father's discipline,*
But a scoffer does not listen to rebuke.

Proverbs 13:1

He who withholds his rod hates his son,
But he who loves him disciplines him diligently.

13:24

Foolishness is bound up in the heart of a child;
The rod of discipline will remove it far from him.

22:15

Do not hold back discipline from the child,
Although you strike him with the rod, he will not
die. ¹⁴You shall strike him with the rod
And rescue his soul from Sheol.

23:13-14

The rod and reproof give wisdom,
But a child who gets his own way brings shame to
his mother. ... ¹⁷Correct your son, and he will give
you comfort; He will also delight your soul.

29:15 & 17

Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is
right. ²HONOR YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER (which is the
first commandment with a promise), ³SO THAT IT
MAY BE WELL WITH YOU, AND THAT YOU MAY LIVE LONG ON
THE EARTH. ⁴Fathers, do not provoke your children
to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and
instruction of the Lord.

Ephesians 6:1-4

1) Extremes of Church Discipline

A. Misuse of Power

- 1) Wrong Motive (2 Thes. 3:14-15)
- 2) Done without proper teaching,
encouraging or exhortation (Acts 18:24-26)

*"We urge you, brethren, admonish the unruly,
encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient
with everyone." 1 Thessalonians 5:14*

- 3) Done without consistency (James 2:1-9)

1) Extremes of Church Discipline

B. Lack of Use

- 1) Ignore the problem away (1 Cor. 5:1-2)
- 2) Paralyzed by fear (Mat. 10:28)

*"Do not fear those who kill the body but are unable to kill
the soul; but rather fear Him who is able to destroy both
soul and body in hell." Matthew 10:28*

2) The Church Needs...

A. Clear Teaching (Eph. 5:15-17)

“It is written, ‘MAN SHALL NOT LIVE ON BREAD ALONE, BUT ON EVERY WORD THAT PROCEEDS OUT OF THE MOUTH OF GOD.’”

Matthew 4:4

- 1) We must consult God before action is taken (2 Tim. 3:16-17)
 - No room for “I think”
- 2) God is clear on discipline (Heb. 5:12-14)

2) The Church Needs...

B. Consistent Practice (1 John 2:3-6)

1) Jesus consistently:

- Stood against evil
- Preached against evil
- Practiced discipline to His own disciples
- Did not show partiality

C. Consistency Will Lead To A Needed Healthy Fear

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom,
And the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.

Proverbs 9:10

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

Acts 5:11

Do not receive an accusation against an elder except on the basis of two or three witnesses. ²⁰Those who continue in sin, rebuke in the presence of all, so that the rest also will be fearful *of sinning*.

1 Timothy 5:19-20

So then, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your salvation with fear and trembling;

Philippians 2:12

¹⁵And He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation. ¹⁶He who has believed and has been baptized shall be saved; but he who has disbelieved shall be condemned.

Mark 16:15-16