

THE CHURCH: HOLY

1 Corinthians 5:1-13

THE PROBLEM OF SIN (1-2)

THE PROCESS OF CHURCH DISCIPLINE (3-5)

(See Matthew 18:15-17)

1. **Have a private discussion.**
2. **Go with a few for clarification.**
3. **Involve church leadership.**
4. **Exclude from fellowship.**

THE PURPOSE OF THE PROCESS (5-10)

For the good of the sinning brother (5)

For the health of the church (6)

For the glory of Christ (7-8)

As a witness to the world (9-10)

THE PROMISE APPLIED

Matthew 18:20

For where two or three are gathered in my name,
there am I among them.

GROUP / FAMILY DISCUSSION

- Do you think most Christians take sin seriously? Why or why not?
- Why would someone (or a group of people) NOT take sin seriously?
- Have you ever witnessed church discipline before?
- How was it handled? What was the end result?
- Have you ever experienced a situation in church where church discipline should have taken place?
- Why do you think church discipline is discussed infrequently?
- If church discipline is biblical, why do you think it is rarely practiced?
- Read **Matthew 18:15-20**. How have parts of this passage been misinterpreted and / or misused?
- What are some of the consequences if the church does not take sin seriously?
- **Pray** for the Spirit to search your heart for any unrepentant sin. Pray for a heart that mourns for sin. Pray for revival within the church. Pray for a brother or sister caught in sin that they may be restored.

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