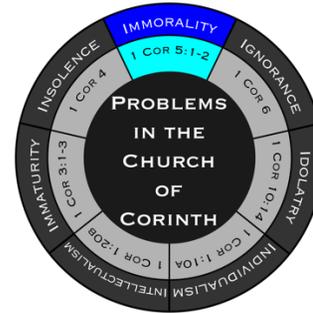
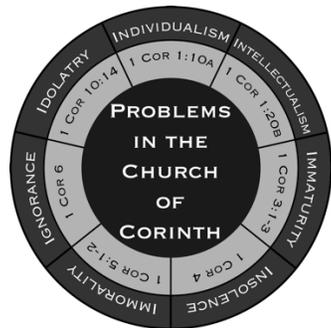


**Activating Our Position in Christ**  
**1 Corinthians 5:1-13**  
**The Ministry of Spiritual Discipline**



*We began our study of First Corinthians by looking at the overall focus of the Letter...*

*We saw where there were several problems in the church that were causing serious issues...*



*As we have been walking through this letter, we have seen Paul address these various problems...*

*Today we are looking at how Paul addresses Immorality...*

**ONE THING**

***As the BODY of Christ on earth we must BATTLE to maintain our PURITY so that we may minister God's GRACE with CLARITY.***

*Corinth was a culture much like the American culture today...*

*Promiscuity and sexual permissiveness were common place...*

*In fact, the Temple of Aphrodite was located in Corinth...*

*Aphrodite was a Greek goddess and is known as the goddess of love, sexuality, pleasure, beauty, and passion.*

*The temple of Aphrodite is famous for its alleged temple of prostitution.*

*The temple is dedicated to the goddess Aphrodite and was built around the early 5th century BC.*

*The temple is said to have been focused on servicing men with temple slaves dedicated to Aphrodite. This also*

**caused the large attraction of visitors in the city at the time who came for the services of the temple.**

**So there is no wonder why Corinth had problems with sexual immorality in the church...**

**Paul attempts to address these problems in a very passionate yet compassionate way.**

## **1. The CONFUSION surrounding Spiritual Discipline**

**1 Corinthians 5:1–2 (ESV) — It is actually reported that there is sexual immorality among you, and of a kind that is not tolerated even among pagans, for a man has his father's wife. And you are arrogant! Ought you not rather to mourn? Let him who has done this be removed from among you.**

**The confusion surrounding Spiritual Discipline within the Body of Christ is pervasive...**

**We don't know IF WE SHOULD discipline...**

**We don't know WHO to discipline...**

**We don't know WHEN to discipline...**

**We don't know HOW to discipline...**

**We don't know WHO SHOULD discipline...**

**We don't know WHY WE DON'T discipline...**

**The Apostle Paul had already written to the church regarding the exercise of Spiritual discipline...**

**The necessity for spiritual discipline is clear...**

**1 Corinthians 5:9 (ESV) — I wrote to you in my letter not to associate with sexually immoral people**

**1<sup>st</sup>, *WHEN* should we discipline?**

**1 Corinthians 5:1 (ESV) — It is actually reported that there is sexual immorality among you, and of a kind that is not tolerated even among pagans, for a man has his father's wife.**

**There are several things that are taken for granted here that will help us understand *WHEN* we should practice spiritual discipline...**

**→ The “man” was a believer who was part of the church in Corinth**

**→ The “father” had either divorced his wife or they were separated**

**→ The “father's wife” was the man's step-mother and not his biological mother**

**→ The “father's wife” was not a believer... (Paul doesn't reference her as in need of discipline)**

**And next, which is the *KEY* to the need for discipline...**

**→ The phrase, “a man *HAS* his father's wife” means this is an ongoing relationship between the man and his father's wife**

**When spiritual discipline should be used in during the *ONGOING* practice of sin...**

**Galatians 5:19–21 (ESV) — Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do [make a practice of doing] such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.**

**2<sup>nd</sup>, WHY DON'T we discipline?**

**1 Corinthians 5:2 (ESV) — And you are arrogant! Ought you not rather to mourn? Let him who has done this be removed from among you.**

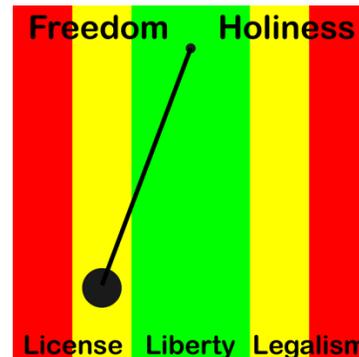
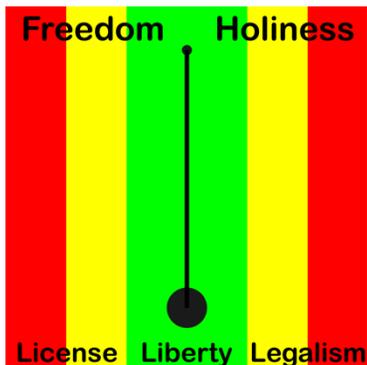
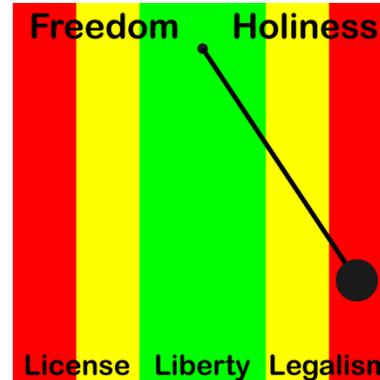
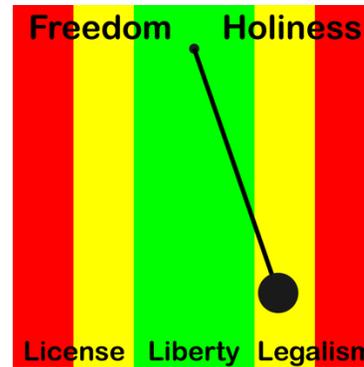
**He calls them arrogant!**

**Apparently they were replacing Christian Liberty with license...**

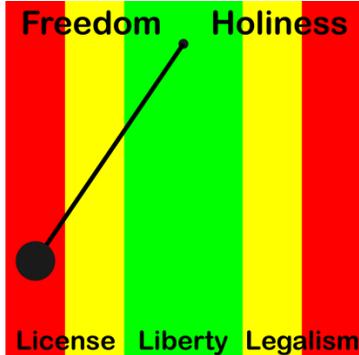
**And mistakenly replacing Christian Love with Toleration...**

**We must never place our freedom in Christ above our holiness in Christ!**

**These two work in tandem!**



→ **Balance of Liberty – Pic 5**



**Galatians 5:1 (ESV) — For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.**

**1. The CONFUSION surrounding Spiritual Discipline**

**2. The COMPASSION in Spiritual Discipline**

**1 Corinthians 5:3–5 (ESV) — For though absent in body, I am present in spirit; and as if present, I have already pronounced judgment on the one who did such a thing. When you are assembled in the name of the Lord Jesus and my spirit is present, with the power of our Lord Jesus, you are to deliver this man to Satan for the destruction of the flesh, so that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord.**

**Why would I call this COMPASSION?**

**Because Paul understood discipline through the eyes of the Father...**

**Hebrews 12:6 (ESV) — For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives.**

**Discipline is NOT inconsistent with love!**

**Jesus taught us how to love through discipline...**

**Matthew 18:15–16 (ESV) — If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses.**

**NOTICE – The “rule” of spiritual discipline begins with the individual believers first!**

**→ People want to bring these things to the Pastor first and “let him handle it”**

**This is cowardice!**

**Go to them personally and privately!**

**Galatians 6:1–2 (ESV) — Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted. Bear one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.**

**→ delivering over to Satan...**

**That sounds harsh!**

**1 Corinthians 5:5 (ESV) — You are to deliver this man to Satan for the destruction of the flesh, so that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord.**

**The purpose is for REPENTANCE!**

**2 Corinthians 7:10 (ESV) — For godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation without regret, whereas worldly grief produces death.**

**1. The CONFUSION surrounding Spiritual Discipline**

**2. The COMPASSION in Spiritual Discipline**

**3. The CLARIFICATION for Spiritual Discipline**

**1 Corinthians 5:6–8 (ESV) — Your boasting is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump? Cleanse out the old leaven that you may be a new lump, as you really are unleavened. For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed. Let us therefore celebrate the festival, not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.**

**The clarification for WHY we discipline Paul uses the Passover...**

**In the Passover the Jewish people were to cleanse their home of all leaven...**

**They were to inspect the home to make sure there was no leaven in the home**

**Then for a week they were to only eat unleavened bread...**

**Throughout the Scriptures leaven is used as an illustration for sin**

- **With one exception (Matt 13:33 where it is used for the good influence of God's Kingdom**

**The whole lump of dough here is the CHURCH!**

**The spiritual health of the entire church is at stake!**

**Any “leaven” within the body of Christ is because we have our focus in the wrong direction!**

**When we focus on the SACRIFICE OF JESUS as the body of Christ we will naturally desire to walk in purity!**

**Hebrews 12:1–2a (ESV) — Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith ...**

**1. The CONFUSION surrounding Spiritual Discipline**

**2. The COMPASSION in Spiritual Discipline**

**3. The CLARIFICATION for Spiritual Discipline**

**4. The CLEANSING through Spiritual Discipline**

**1 Corinthians 5:9–13 (ESV) — 9 I wrote to you in my letter not to associate with sexually immoral people— 10 not at all meaning the sexually immoral of this world, or the greedy and swindlers, or idolaters, since then you would need to go out of the world. 11 But now I am writing to you not to associate with anyone who bears the name of brother if he is guilty of sexual immorality or greed, or is an idolater, reviler, drunkard, or swindler—not even to eat with such a one. 12 For what have I to do with judging**

November 17, 2021

Crossgates – Sermon

David Jett

***outsiders? Is it not those inside the church whom you are to judge? 13 God judges those outside. “Purge the evil person from among you.”***

**Activating Our Position in Christ**  
**1 Corinthians 5:1-13**  
**The Ministry of Spiritual Discipline**

As the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ on earth we must \_\_\_\_\_ to  
maintain our \_\_\_\_\_ so that we may minister God's \_\_\_\_\_  
with \_\_\_\_\_.

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ surrounding Spiritual Discipline

2. The \_\_\_\_\_ in Spiritual Discipline

3. The \_\_\_\_\_ for Spiritual Discipline

4. The \_\_\_\_\_ through Spiritual Discipline