

Guarding One Another in the Faith

1 Corinthians 5:1-13

p. ###

Review: *What do we need to give our attention to so that we can be the church God would have us be?*

*We have said that a church's **ultimate** priority is to glorify God.

*We then identified two **essential** marks of a healthy church:
→ Expositional Preaching, and → Sound Gospel Doctrine.

***Important** marks of a healthy church:

- A right understanding of conversion & evangelism.
- biblical church membership
- a biblical concern for discipleship and growth;
- biblical understandings of the practices of prayer & missions;
- biblical church leadership;

This week

- A biblical understanding of church discipline.

***Church discipline is not negative but necessary** because we are not yet finished projects. We are each still works in progress.

We want to survey Scripture, answering two key questions:

- **What is church discipline?**
- **Why do we practice church discipline?**

What is church discipline?

Two forms: (1) formative, and (2) corrective.

Key Scriptures:

Hebrews 12:1–14

Matthew 18:15–17

Galatians 6:1

1 Corinthians 5:1–13

2 Thessalonians 3:6–15

1 Timothy 1:20

1 Timothy 5:19–20

Titus 3:9–11

Reasons for discipline:

(1) For the good of the person disciplined.

(2) For the good of other Christians.

- We want to see the danger of sin and be warned.

(3) For the health of the church as a whole.

(4) For the corporate witness of the church.

The culture of our church (and our witness) will be shaped by the love we demonstrate, the values we celebrate, and the behavior we tolerate.

What sins are “brought before the church” (Matthew 18)?

- Sin that is:
- 1- demonstrable (visible)
 - 2- serious, and
 - 3- unrepentant.

The last reason for church discipline is

(5) for the glory of God as we reflect His holiness.

For further study:

Jonathan Leeman's *Church Discipline: How the Church Protects the Name of Jesus*, and Bobby Jamieson's *Guarding One Another: Church Discipline* (a six-week inductive Bible Study) will prove helpful for further study.