

The Discipline of God's Children, Part 2

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I. Introduction.

- A. Text: Matthew 18.
- B. Discipline is to conform a person to God's standard--it is a good word.
- C. There are two ways people are disciplined/trained: positive and negative.
- D. The church must be pure.
- E. There are several important elements of discipline.

II. The place: the church

III. The purpose: to keep people in the church.

IV. The person: everyone in the church.

V. Prerequisites: a willingness, a zeal for God and personal holiness. (Psalm 69:9, Matthew 7, Galatians 6)

VI The provocation of discipline: what we do.

- A. Any sin constitutes a sin that needs discipline or correction.
- B. There are two ways one can sin against you.
 - 1. Directly: a crime of morality against you. These are to be addressed if a Christian does this against you.(Ephesians 4:32)
 - 2. Indirectly: any sin against any one of God's people is against all of God's people because it affects them. (1 Corinthians 5; Galatians 5)

VII. The process of discipline.

- A. Go and pursue the believer in meek love privately. (Galatians 6:1)
- B. Confirm of repentance or a lack of repentance through two or three witnesses. (2 Peter 3:15, 2 Corinthians 13, 2 Corinthians 2)
- C. Put a believer outside of the fellowship if he refuses to repent. (1 Corinthians 5, 1 Timothy 1:20, 2 Thessalonians 3:6, 2 Corinthians 5:9)
- D. Call a believer back to the fellowship through repentance. (2 Thessalonians 3:15)

Application Questions:

1. Why is it so difficult to confront people?

2. Why is it important to have a process for confrontation?

3. How would you counsel someone looking for wisdom on how to confront another believer?
Explain.
