

## “Ecclesiology: The Doctrine of the Church:

## Church Discipline: Understanding God Given Authority” (Part 3)

1 Corinthians 5:1-13; Titus 1:10-16; 1 Timothy 5:19-21; 1 Timothy 1:19-20; 2 Thessalonians 3:6-15; Acts 5:1-11; Matthew 18:15-17

*“Forgiveness and reconciliation are the keys to spiritual unity within the church and spiritual flourishing in the church and in the individual. Forgiveness and reconciliation are the keys to love and all meaningful relationships. Only forgiveness can break down the walls that sin continually and inevitably erects between God’s people. We have a duty to forgive, to repent, and to seek reconciliation.” (John MacArthur) (Luke 17:3)*

- Three important facts about Church Discipline:
  - The goal of church discipline is to preserve the purity of the church and to restore sinning brothers and sisters back into the fellowship.
  - Church discipline can never be motivated out of self-righteous pride or with the intent to embarrass people.
  - For church discipline to be effective the members must take the worth of Christ and the danger of sin seriously.
- Matthew 18:15-20 & 21-22 & 32-33: The Four Steps of Church Discipline:
  - Private, loving, addressment for reconciliation.
  - Confirming the offense and lack of repentance.
  - Elder/church involvement in seeking repentance.
  - Removing the brother/sister from the fellowship.
    - When the church follows God’s Word in church discipline, God stands in agreement with their decision. “Bound” and “loosed” in heaven has to do with actions forbidden or permitted in light of God’s Word (Matthew 18:18-20).
- 1 Corinthians 5:1-13: Proper Judgment of Sin:
  - Arrogance of the church: 1 Corinthians 5:1-2
    - The church was tolerating sin that even the world would not tolerate. It is arrogant not to address sin, and on the other end of the spectrum it should be heartbreaking to address unrepentant sin. Unrepentant sin of a church member must result in removal from the church fellowship.
  - Loving Discipline of the church: 1 Corinthians 5:3-5
    - Discipline from authority is consistent with love (Hebrews 12:6). The Lord disciplines at times through the church according to His Word for our good (Hebrews 12:10-11).
    - The church should do what is in accordance with biblical teaching. Paul’s words and Christ’s words are not different. Doing something in the name of Jesus is according to the teaching of Jesus. Doing something according to the teaching of Jesus is doing something by the power of Jesus.
  - Purity of the church: 1 Corinthians 5:6-8
    - To remove someone from the fellowship of the church should be devastating. It should be accompanied by tears and heaviness. But continual unrepentant sin should not be a mark of a believer. If sin is left unaddressed it will affect the testimony and effectiveness of the church.
  - The responsibility of the church: 1 Corinthians 5:9-13
    - When we operate in minimizing the severity of unrepentant sin we deny the power of the work of Christ. We also encourage someone down the path to death, not life.
    - We address sin in the church by confrontation, excommunication, and restoration (2 Corinthians 2:5-11).

**Worship:** I Stand Amazed (Norton Hall Band)

All Creatures (Kings Kaleidoscope)

Satisfied In You (The Sing Team)

**Closing Song:** O Lord, My Rock and My Redeemer (Sovereign Grace Music)

**Service Times:** Sundays: Prayer 4:30/Church 5:30; Tuesdays: (In-Home) Bible Study: Women 6:30/Men 7; Thursdays: Prayer 6:20/Church 7

### **Announcements:**

\***Fellowship:** EVERY Sunday, immediately following the service, we invite everyone to stay and join us for fellowship in the gym! Bring your dinner with you to church or go get dinner for yourself after the service and come back to join us for a time of fellowship together. We will be socially distancing as we sit together in the gym. Masks are required when you are up and moving around the gym.

\***Volunteers Needed:** We have a wonderful opportunity for our church members to get involved in serving our church body in the CHILDREN'S MINISTRY. If you are interested in serving in this ministry or have any questions about serving in this ministry, please talk to Kalen and Courtney!

\***Revelation Class:** The Revelation Class will be starting back up on Sunday, March 14th, at 4pm, in the gym. The class has been divided into TWO groups, so each class will meet every other week. If you signed up to be a part of this class, please see the list on the back table to find out which group you are in. If you didn't sign up to be in the class, but you are interested in taking it, please let Pastor Jeremy know so that he can assign you to one of the groups. \*\*If you need the curriculum for this class, please let Pastor Jeremy know!

\***Greeting Ministry Meeting:** NEXT Sunday, March 7th, there will be a short meeting immediately following the worship service for those who currently serve in this ministry. If you are interested in or have questions about serving in this ministry, please plan on staying for this meeting or talk to Shawn.

\***Evangelism Class:** Our next round for the Evangelism Class will be March 20th and 27th (the last two Saturdays of March). If you are interested in participating in this class, there is a sign-up list on the back table! The class is limited to 10 people!