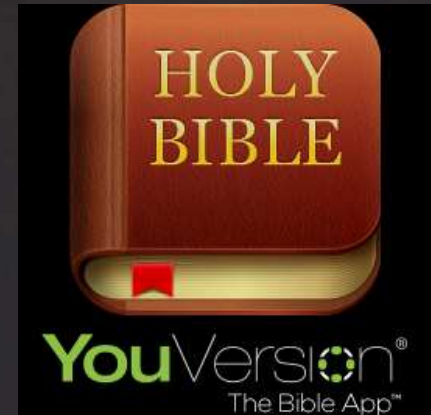


Scripture

Matthew 18:12-20



Look for our event!

Please sign and pass the black binders

Church Discipline

11/25/2018

To submit a question, text 22333.
Begin the text with 14774.

God has granted authority to the church

Matthew 16:18-19 –

“And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.”

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God has granted authority to the church

Matthew 18:18-20 –

Jesus, to the church, specifically in the context, as we will see, of church discipline: “Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven...”

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God has granted authority to the church

Matthew 18:18-20 –

Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.”

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With Authority comes Responsibility

I Corinthians 5:1-5 –

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. For though absent in body, I am present in spirit; and as if present,..

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With Authority comes Responsibility

I Corinthians 5:1-5 –

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.

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With Authority comes Responsibility

I Corinthians 5:11-13 –

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. For what have I to do with judging outsiders? Is it not those inside the church whom you are to judge? God judges those outside. “Purge the evil person from among you.”

There are several calls in the NT to pronounce such judgment:

- I Cor. 5:2 - “Put (him) out of your fellowship”
- I Cor. 5:5 - “Hand this man over to Satan”
- I Cor. 5:9 - “Do not associate with (him)”
- II Thess. 3:6 - “Keep away from (him)...
Do not associate with him”
- I Tim. 5:20 - “Rebuke publicly”
- II Tim. 3:5 - “Have nothing to do with them”
- Titus 3:10 - “Have nothing to do with him”
- Matt. 18:17 - “Treat him as you would a pagan or a tax collector”

The Process of Church Discipline

Matt 18:15-20 -

“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. If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church...

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Matt 18:15-20 –

And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.”

The Process of Church Discipline

- 1) Go Personally**
- 2) Go Together**
- 3) Tell it to the Church**
- 4) Tell it to the World**

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The Nature of Church Discipline

- 1) Discipline is Christians Discipling Each Other**
- 2) Discipline is the Church Excommunicating a Member**

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The Reasons for Church Discipline

First, discipline aims to expose. Sin, like cancer, loves to hide. Discipline exposes the cancer so that it might be cut out quickly (1 Cor. 5:2).

Second, discipline aims to warn. A church does not enact God's retribution through discipline. Rather, it stages a small play that pictures the great judgment to come (v. 5).

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The Reasons for Church Discipline

Third, it aims to save. Churches pursue discipline when they see a member taking the path toward death, and none of their pleading and arm-waving causes the person to turn around. It's the device of last resort for bringing an individual to repentance (v. 5).

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The Reasons for Church Discipline

Fourth, discipline aims to protect. Just as cancer spreads from one cell to another, so sin quickly spreads from one person to another (v. 6).

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The Reasons for Church Discipline

Fifth, it aims to present a good witness for Jesus. Church discipline, strange to say, is actually good for non-Christians, because it helps to preserve the attractive distinctiveness of God's people (v. 12).

~Jonathan Leeman,

Church Discipline: How the Church Protects the Name of Jesus (9marks: Building Healthy Churches, pg. 33)

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The Goal of Church Discipline

1) The Goal of Discipling Each Other

Galatians 6:1 –

“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.”

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The Goal of Church Discipline

2) The Goal of Excommunication

I Corinthians 5:5 - “

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.”

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The Goal of Church Discipline

2) The Goal of Excommunication

II Corinthians 2:5-8 -

“Now if anyone has caused pain, he has caused it not to me, but in some measure—not to put it too severely—to all of you. For such a one, this punishment by the majority is enough, so you should rather turn to forgive and comfort him, or he may be overwhelmed by excessive sorrow. So I beg you to reaffirm your love for him.”

The Goal of Church Discipline

2) The Goal of Excommunication

I Cor. 6:9-11 –

Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God...

The Goal of Church Discipline

2) The Goal of Excommunication

I Cor. 6:9-11 –

And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

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