



Prescription For A Healthy Church

1 Timothy 5:17-25

- 1) *Appreciate* yours pastors (17-18; cf. 1 Cor. 9:9-14; 1 Thess. 5:12-13)
 - a) Give them the honor due them
 - b) Make certain they are paid for their work
- 2) *Discipline* sinning pastors (19-20)
 - a) Must be accused by at least two people w/ first-hand knowledge of sin
 - b) Must actually be in sin for accusation to stand
 - c) Must be made public if there is no repentance
 - d) Forgiveness granted upon repentance of sin
- 3) *Demand* biblical principles be taught w/ impartiality (21)
- 4) *Forbid* unqualified men from office of elder (22-23)
- 5) *Be discerning* of the character of your leaders (24-25)
- 6) Thoughts on correcting sin within the church
 - a) When an elder sins, the whole church is compromised
 - b) Public rebuke of sin warns the entire church (and world)
 - c) Church discipline is ultimately meant to restore, not punish
 - d) When a sinner is restored, there is joy; throw a party!