"For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication:"

"As obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance: But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy."

1 Peter 1:14-16

"Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect."

Matthew 5:48

"Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God."

2 Corinthians 7:1

"And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

Romans 12:2

This is the doctrine of progressive sanctification (a *SPIRITual* extension of the doctrine of positional sanctification) ... where we are seen by God as *enrobed* in the <u>absolute holiness</u> of the Lord Jesus Christ!

Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord." Hebrews 12:14

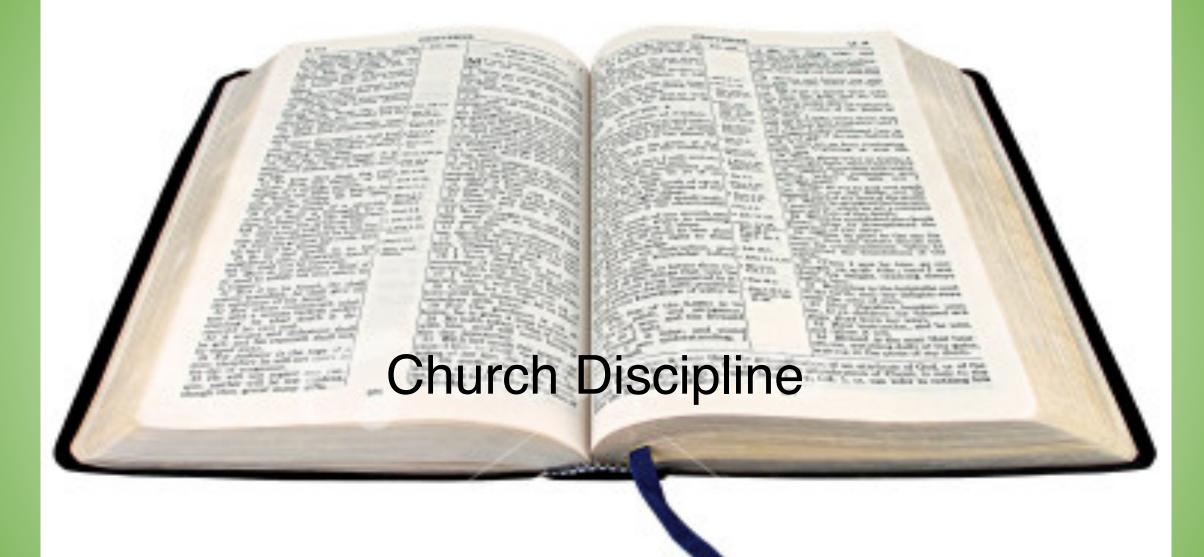
Putting off the old and putting on the new Romans 13:14; Ephesians 4:22-24; Col. 3:3-10

Manifesting the fruit of the Spirit – a description of the Person of Jesus Christ Galatians 5:22-23

Walking in the Spirit Galatians 5:16

Not grieving the Holy Spirit Ephesians 4:30

Not quenching the Holy Spirit Saying "no" to Christ 1 Thessalonians 5:19



"A church lacking discipline is a church without PURITY.... without POWER.....and without PROGRESS."

J. Carl Laney

PURPOSES of Discipline:

Honor the Word of God and the weight of Holiness

Bring about shame, repentance, RESTORATION and Healing . . . Maturity

Guard the testimony of the Lord Jesus Christ Himself

Protect the purity of the testimony of His bride, the local church

To thwart Satan's advantage in the church

To demonstrate the Love of God and His people

As a deterrent to sin in the lives of the others

One-on-One Meeting(s)

Matthew 18:15

- Bathed in much Prayer
- Can be multiple times
- Written record from this stage
- May not go beyond this step!

Meeting(s) with Witnesses

Matthew 18:16

- Bathed in continual Prayer
- Witnesses chosen with care
- Can, again, be multiple times
 - Written record continues...
- If no repentance, brother is informed of the potential steps to follow

Informing the "Church"

Matthew 18:17a

- Senior Pastor apprised of the history
- Particulars [of working through this] discussed among the leadership
 - as small of a group as practical
 - Written record continues
 - Plan and actions discussed with errant Brother, with opportunity for change
 - Strict Confidence KEPT

Expulsion of the Member

Matthew 18:17b

- Proper order of notifications honored
 - Special meeting may be called
- Whole church asked to pray much about "a grave concern" in the life of a member
- Details @ mtg. kept to minimum, followed by motion to discipline the member, w/ support
 - Questions limited to procedure only

Matthew 18:15-17 prescribes.... Four Steps!

- 1. One-on-one...
- 2. One plus witnesses-on-one
- 3. Taken before the Church
- 4. Expelled from the Church

Matthew 18:15-17 prescribes.... Four Steps!

- 2. One-on-one...
- 3. One plus witnesses-on-one
- 4. Taken before the Church
- 5. Expelled from the Church

Matthew 18:15-17 prescribes.... Four Steps which suppose a pre-requisite!

- 1. Self-discipline
- 2. One-on-one...
- 3. One plus witnesses-on-one
- 4. Taken before the Church
- 5. Expelled from the Church

Paul tells Timothy....

"But refuse profane and old wives' fables, and *exercise* thyself rather unto *Godliness*!"

1 Timothy 4:7

Self-discipline ought be the practice of EVERY believer!

