

INSIDE, OUTSIDE

Responding To Immorality Inside And Outside The Church

1 Corinthians 5:9-13

I. The Church Is Not To Disassociate From Immoral Outsiders (9-10; cf. Lk 7:34)

⁹ When I wrote to you before, I told you not to associate with people who indulge in sexual sin. ¹⁰ But I wasn't talking about unbelievers who indulge in sexual sin, or are greedy, or cheat people, or worship idols. You would have to leave this world to avoid people like that.

II. The Church Is Responsible To Maintain Holiness From Within (11, 13b; Mt 18:15-20; 2 Cor 13:1-10)

¹¹ I meant that you are not to associate with anyone who claims to be a believer yet indulges in sexual sin, or is greedy, or worships idols, or is abusive, or is a drunkard, or cheats people. Don't even eat with such people. ...

^{13b} "You must remove the evil person from among you."

Overview of the Church Discipline Process

Step 1: Privately Confront Him → If he repents, forgive and restore

↓ (If he continues...)

Step 2: Confront With Two Or Three Witnesses → If he repents, forgive and restore

↓ (If he continues...)

Step 3: Tell It To The Church → If he repents, forgive and restore

↓ (If he continues...)

A. Leadership holds a hearing → If he repents, forgive and restore

↓ (If he continues...)

B. Church is notified → If he repents, forgive and restore

↓ (If he continues...)

C. Church begins to pray, encourage and rebuke → If he repents, forgive and restore

↓ (If he continues...)

Step 4: Excommunicate From Fellowship → When repentance is public, forgive and restore

(Believer's and Church's responsibility is complete)

↓ If he continues → He may not be saved (Mt 13:26-27)

→ He continues in sin (1 Jn 1:6)

↓ He may be chastized by God (1 Cor 11:30; Heb 12:6)

↓ God may take his life (1 Jn 5:16; 1 Cor 11:30)

A. Motivation: God's Holiness (1 Cor 5:1-8)

B. Preparation: Self Check (Gal 6:1)

- Assess The Root Problem ("If a man is overtaken in any trespass...")
- Search Your Motives ("...you who are spiritual restore such a one ...")
- Emanate Gentleness ("...in a spirit of gentleness...")
- Guard Your Heart ("...considering yourself lest you also be tempted.")

C. Initiation: Personal Confrontation (Mt 18:15; Prov 9:8)

- The Preservation Of Fellowship ("brother")
- The Preservation Of Unity ("against")
- The Preservation Of Trust ("alone")
- The Preservation Of Holiness ("gained")

D. Substantiation: Group Intervention (Mt 18:16; 2 Cor 13:1-2; 1 Tim 5:19) – Friends Cleanse

E. Explanation: Delineate Purpose (2 Cor 13:1-10)

- Warn Them Of Potential Church Discipline (1-2)
- Demonstrate A Christ-like Approach (3-4)
- Ask Them To Examine Their Heart (5-6)
- Pray For Them To Discontinue Their Sin (7a)
- Be More Concerned For Their Reputation Than Your Own (7b)
- Remind Them Of Their Responsibility To Uphold God's Truth (8)
- Reassure Them Of Your Support And Prayers (9)
- Reassure Them Of The Sincerity Of Your Methods & Motives (10)

F. Participation: Involve Members (Mt 18:17a)

- The Church Leadership Should Be Informed And Involved (cf. Acts 15)
- The Church Membership Should Be Informed And Involved (notified, sanctified, praying, express love and exhortation, urge repentance)

G. Excommunication: Remove Fellowship (Mt 18:17b; 1 Cor 5:5,9-11,13; Titus 3:10-11; Rom 16:17-20)

H. Authorization: Divine Sanction (18-20)

III. The Church Is Not To Be Judgmental To Outsiders (12-13)

¹² It isn't my responsibility to judge outsiders, but it certainly is your responsibility to judge those inside the church who are sinning. ¹³ God will judge those on the outside; but as the Scriptures say, "You must remove the evil person from among you."

Conclusion:

- In the church, exhort one another to live out the Gospel in holiness with a restoration mindset (no pride)
- In the world, exemplify to the world what it means to live out the Gospel in holiness was a redemptive mindset (no judgment)