

SERMON NOTES

Title: Discipline
Text: 1 Cor. 5-7:9
Subject: Church Discipline
Date: 07/20/08
Introduction:

- A. Have you ever been kicked out of a church – excommunicated?
- B. In chapters 5 & 6 the Apostle Paul gives us a view of this very difficult subject of church discipline.

Body:

I. Judgment begins at home.

- A. But didn't Jesus say we are not to judge?
[Matthew 7:1-2 \(NKJV\)](#), [Luke 6:37 \(NKJV\)](#), [John 7:24 \(NIV\)](#), [1 Cor. 4:5 \(NIV\)](#), [1Co 5:12 \(NLT\)](#)
- B. The key is in the context of these verses.
- C. In other words, congregations of believers are expected to exercise church discipline even if that means excommunication.

II. The Corinthian church was tolerating the sin of incest.

- A. Not only was the church tolerating this evil but it was proud and boastful of it.
[Romans 6:1-2 \(NIV\)](#)
- B. Paul makes clear that this is a perverted way of thinking.
- C. Therefore Paul, who was in Ephesus, passes judgment upon this man and turns him over to Satan.
- D. By handing the man over to Satan, Paul is talking about returning the man to the world over which Satan rules.
- E. This kind of church discipline is appropriate for any habitual unrepentant sin.
[1 Cor. 5:11 \(NIV\)](#), [James 5:19 \(NLT\)](#)

III. The second example of church discipline has to do with the settlement of legal disputes. [1 Cor. 6:1-6 \(NIV\)](#)

- A. For Christians to take their disputes to the public courts is to advertise our division and hypocrisy to the world.
- B. Not only that, but the people of this world have a whole different value system by which they make judgments.
[1 Cor. 6:9-11 \(NIV\)](#), [1 Cor. 6:19-20 \(NIV\)](#)

Conclusion:

- A. Look around you. These are your Christian family.
- B. Are you a member of the Body of Christ?