

BE HOLY, EMBRACE DISCIPLINE

LAST WEEK'S MESSAGE

The statement in 1 Peter 1:15-16 to "BE HOLY" is not a mere suggestion — it is a **COMMAND**, a resounding directive for God's people to uphold holiness. As God's chosen people, we are called to lead lives that stand apart from the ways of the world. However, just as the Corinthian church faced its own set of challenges and struggles in this regard, so do we in our contemporary world.

During the time of the Apostle Paul, the city of Corinth was a bustling metropolis strategically located between two prominent ports. The Corinthian church wrestled not only with issues of division but also with pervasive immorality deeply ingrained in their culture. Immorality had infiltrated their ranks to a shocking extent, even to the point of an incestuous relationship, a behavior unheard of even among those outside the church. This was the grave matter that Paul was addressing in 1 Corinthians 5. From it, we learn that we need to **EMBRACE DISCIPLINE** to be holy, and there are four key actions we need to take:

I. RESTORE THE SINNER

Instead of confronting the immorality within the church, the Corinthian believers had grown complacent and even arrogant (1 Corinthians 5:2). When there is sin among us, we are to mourn (to repent, acknowledge sin before God). God accepts us the way we are **BUT** His love refuses to leave us the way we are. His discipline is not meant to punish but to redeem. It aims to redirect our lives so we can experience the fullness of life in Christ (Hebrews 12:9-10). In a similar way, just as parents discipline their children out of love, God uses discipline to reach the depths of our hearts. When there is sin among us, we are to respond in repentance and humility before God.

How do we go about helping a fellow believer be restored? Galatians 6:1 advises us to approach this task with gentleness. Here's a simple step-by-step guide:

1. Talk privately with the person (Matthew 18:15, Proverbs 27:6)
2. If the person does not listen, bring witnesses to attest to him/her (Matthew 18:16)
3. If the person still does not listen, tell the body of believers (Matthew 18:17a)
4. If the person still refuses to listen, do not associate with the person (Matthew 18:17b, 1 Corinthians 5:3-5)

II. REMOVE THE SIN

Just as a pinch of yeast can transform an entire lump of dough into bread, even a small sin can have a pervasive and corrupting influence within the community of believers. In the context of 1 Corinthians 12:26-27, we understand that we are intricately connected as members of the body of Christ. We must take sin seriously. It is destructive, and if left unchecked, can harm not only ourselves but also the unity and effectiveness of the entire body of Christ.

III. RECEIVE GOD'S GRACE

In our pursuit of holiness and the restoration of fellow believers, it's essential to grasp the significance of receiving God's grace. The idea of being "unleavened" (1 Corinthians 5:7) underscores God's grace through Christ. By His blood, Christ our Passover lamb (Exodus 12:13) cleanses us from sin in our lives. He is the source of our "unleavened" state, making us holy. 1 Peter 2:9 reminds us that God has set us apart and made us holy.

IV. REDEEM THE WORLD

Following the example of Jesus, who actively engaged with unbelievers (John 17:15), we are called to do the same as part of our mission to redeem the world. Our pursuit of holiness equips us to be the salt and light that positively impacts the world around us. However, it's essential to recognize that our effectiveness in this mission is closely tied to our commitment to living holy lives. The story of the individual mentioned earlier (1 Cor. 5:5), who was eventually restored in 2 Corinthians 2:6-8, serves as a reminder that the process of redemption often involves a combination of tough love and gentleness.

As we endeavor to be holy and embrace discipline, let us aspire to reflect God's heart of redemption in all aspects of our lives, both in our relationships with fellow believers and in our interactions with the world.

LAST WEEK'S MEMORY VERSE

Clean out the old leaven so that you may be a new lump, just as you are in fact unleavened. For Christ our Passover also has been sacrificed.

1 CORINTHIANS 5:7

DISCUSS THIS MESSAGE

What area of your life are you compromising in (e.g. sex, money, possessions, drink, tongue, others)?

What attitude must you change to create a healthier environment in your small group or family for correction and discipline?

What is preventing you from embracing discipline (e.g. hypocrisy, fear, pride, others)? How will you remove this barrier.

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The season of Christmas is just around the corner!
Experience the warmth that the love of Jesus brings!

See you at the Welcome Center at the 2ND floor lobby!

STEP INTO THE COMMUNITY

Fellowship and learn together with people like you!

WOMEN2WOMEN ALL WOMEN

Forgiven, so, Forgive! Unforgiveness: Is it Really That Bad?

with Gerlie Zara

September 14, Thursday, 10:00 AM, MPH

ALSO STREAMED LIVE ONLINE

 ccfwomen2women
 CCFWomen2WomenMinistry

NXTGEN KIDS FROM 4-12 YEARS OLD

United A NXTGEN Series on 1 Corinthians

Sundays, 9:00 AM, 12:00 NN, 3:00 PM

G/F North Wing

ALSO STREAMED LIVE ONLINE

  ccfnxtgen for ages 4-12
 zoom for ages 7-12
 (9:00 AM and 3:00 PM only)



counterflow 2023 family conference
2023 SEPT 16
Ready... Set...
#livecounterflow
Come early! Check-in starts 6:30 AM
 Deadline of ticket activation: September 12

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE FAITH

Continue to be equipped in your discipleship journey.

Join GLC's new training cycle this September!

GLC Level 1 Face-to-Face and Zoom Classes — OPEN TO ALL

Book 1: One by One
 Book 2: Spiritual Disciplines

GLC Level 2 — Face to Face Cycle 1

Book 6: Basic Doctrines, Session 5
 September 10, Sunday, 1:00 PM, Room 3A

GLC Level 2 — Zoom Cycle 1

Book 6: Basic Doctrines, Session 6
 September 14, Thursday, 7:30 PM

GLC Level 3 Lead — Zoom Cycle 1

Module 5: Soul Care, Session 2
 September 14, Thursday, 7:30 PM

Register at bit.ly/GLCTraining2023

The Holy Spirit Class — OPEN TO ALL

GLC Level 1 - Book 3, Session 3 of 4

FACE TO FACE

September 10, Sunday, 1:00 PM, Room 2A

ZOOM CYCLE

September 13, Wednesday 7:30 PM

Register at bit.ly/Book3TheHolySpiritClass

JOIN AND PARTICIPATE

Come together with the community to learn and grow, or to retreat and recharge!

Navigating Change

EXCLUSIVE GATHERING OF LIKE-MINDED LEADERS AND PASSIONATE ENTREPRENEURS

September 16, Saturday, 6:00 PM, MPH

Onsite registration opens at 5:30 PM

Register at go.ccf.org.ph/navigatingchange

Across M.O.T.I.V.A.T.E. Family Camp

October 6 - 8, MMRC

REGISTRATION FEE:

PHP5,500/person for adults

PHP4,500/person for 5-11 year old kids

Children 0-4 years old are free

Register at bit.ly/AcrossFamilyCamp2023

MOVE YDC 2023 Grounded: Discipleship in a Woke Culture

FACE TO FACE CONFERENCE

October 30 - November 1

REGULAR RATES:

PHP1,200 for regular tickets

PHP1,000 for commitment card holders

Get your tickets at moveydc.org

LOOKING FOR ANSWERS? THINK YOUR VISIT IS A COINCIDENCE? YOUR BEING HERE TODAY IS NO ACCIDENT!

God brought you here for His purpose.

1 God loves you.

He desires for you to have a meaningful life with Him in the present and gain eternal life with Him in the future.

*Know therefore that the Lord your God, He is God, the faithful God, who **keeps His covenant and His lovingkindness** to a thousandth generation with those who love Him and keep His commandments — Deuteronomy 7:9*

2 God is holy.

We are sinful, and our sin separates us from Him.

Everyone has sinned and is far away from God's saving presence. — Romans 3:23

3 God is merciful.

In His love, He made the only way for us to be reconciled to Him: through His son, Jesus Christ. Jesus had to die on the cross for our sins and be raised to life for eternity.

But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him. — Romans 5:8

I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me. — John 14:6

4 God is gracious.

By placing our faith in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven of our sins and saved from eternal death.

For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. — John 3:16

For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast. — Ephesians 2:8-9

5 God keeps His promises.

You can be sure that you have eternal life when you trust in Jesus.

And the testimony is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life. These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life. — 1 John 5:11-13



SERVICES AT THE CCF CENTER

SATURDAY NIGHT SERVICE

5:00 PM

SUNDAY SERVICES ENGLISH

9:00 AM, 12:00 NN, 3:00 PM

FILIPINO

ONLINE LIVESTREAMS

 ccf.org.ph  ccfmain  ccfmainTV

9:00 AM, 12:00 NN, 3:00 PM, 6:00 PM

Visit ccf.org.ph/live/broadcast-channels/ for the list of broadcast TV channels and radio stations.