



Christ Purifies and Restores His People Through Truth and Love

SESSION AIM

Help teachers and group leaders explain why holiness matters within the church, the biblical purpose of church discipline, and how restoration reflects Christ's love and authority.

BIG IDEA

The church is called to holiness under Christ. Biblical discipline is not rooted in pride, punishment, or control, but in love, truth, repentance, protection of the body, and the restoration of believers to faithful covenant life.

WHAT THIS SESSION BUILDS UPON

From Leader Sheets 1–7:

- The church is Christ's gathered people.
- Believers belong to one another.
- The church bears witness to Christ's Kingdom.
- Shepherds care for the flock.
- Every believer participates in ministry.

This Session Expands:

- Holiness in covenant life.
- Loving correction and accountability.
- Protection of the church body.
- Restoration through repentance and grace.

FOUNDATIONAL SCRIPTURES

- Matthew 18:15–17
- Galatians 6:1
- 1 Corinthians 5
- Hebrews 12:5–11
- 1 Peter 1:15–16

PRINCIPLE

The church is called to holiness under Christ. Discipline is an act of love that seeks repentance, restoration, and protection so that the body may faithfully witness to His Kingdom.

RECOMMENDED VISUALS

- Holiness, Discipline, and Restoration
- Embassy of the Kingdom
- Shepherds and Servants
- One Another Commands
- The Gathered Church

NEXT STEPS

- Continue with RC2 Leader Sheet 9.
- Review the Holiness, Discipline, and Restoration visual.
- Discuss practical ways to pursue holiness and restoration.
- Encourage humility, accountability, and prayer for one another.

TEACHING FLOW: HOW TO USE THIS SHEET

1 BEGIN WITH THE HOLINESS OF THE CHURCH

- The church belongs to Christ.
- Believers are called to holiness.
- The church visibly represents Christ.

USE THIS:
1 Peter 1:15–16
Articles
Visuals

KEY EMPHASIS: The church is called to holy covenant life.

2 TEACH THE PURPOSE OF DISCIPLINE

- Correction leads to repentance.
- Accountability protects the body.
- Discipline seeks restoration.
- The goal is healing, not humiliation.

USE THIS:
Discipline
Visual
Articles
Examples

KEY EMPHASIS: Discipline is loving restoration.

3 CONNECT DISCIPLINE TO LOVE

- Love warns and speaks truth.
- Love protects the body.
- Love restores the fallen.
- Love seeks repentance.

USE THIS:
Galatians 6:1
Articles
Key Passages

KEY EMPHASIS: Truth and love belong together.

4 ADDRESS MODERN DISTORTIONS

- Legalism and harshness.
- Avoidance of correction.
- Permissiveness and indifference.
- Public shaming and authoritarianism.

USE THIS:
Discussion
Starters
Examples

KEY EMPHASIS: Christ-centered discipline is humble and restorative.

5 SHOW HOW HOLINESS SUPPORTS WITNESS

- Visible holiness strengthens testimony.
- Integrity brings honor to Christ.
- The church protects its witness.
- The world sees Christ in His people.

USE THIS:
Articles
Visuals
Key Passages

KEY EMPHASIS: Holiness strengthens Gospel witness.

6 APPLY PRACTICALLY

- Pursue holiness humbly.
- Practice repentance and forgiveness.
- Encourage loving accountability.
- Pray for one another and seek restoration.

USE THIS:
Application
Ideas
Handouts

KEY EMPHASIS: Grow together in grace and truth.

KEY EMPHASES

CHRIST CALLS HIS CHURCH TO HOLINESS

The church belongs to Him and is called to be holy.

DISCIPLINE EXISTS FOR RESTORATION

Biblical correction aims toward repentance and healing.

TRUTH AND LOVE WORK TOGETHER

Faithfulness requires both grace and truth.

THE CHURCH PROTECTS THE BODY

Correction guards the church from destructive sin.

RESTORATION REFLECTS THE GOSPEL

Repentance and forgiveness display Christ's mercy.

COMMON CONFUSIONS

- "Discipline is judgmental."** Biblical discipline seeks restoration and faithfulness.
- "Love means avoiding correction."** Scripture connects love with truth and accountability.
- "Holiness is optional."** The church visibly represents Christ's Kingdom.
- "Discipline means public humiliation."** Biblical correction should be humble, careful, and restorative.
- "Grace removes accountability."** Grace leads believers toward repentance and holiness.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Why does holiness matter within the church?
- What is the biblical purpose of church discipline?
- How can churches drift into either harshness or permissiveness?
- Why must truth and love remain connected?
- How does restoration reflect the Gospel?
- How does holiness strengthen the church's witness?

APPLICATION FOCUS

- Pursue holiness humbly.
- Practice repentance and forgiveness.
- Encourage loving accountability.
- Pray for restoration and healing.
- Strengthen the church through truth and grace.

PRAYER FOCUS

- Pray for holiness within the church.
- Pray for wisdom and humility in correction.
- Pray for restoration where relationships are broken.
- Pray for protection from pride and harshness.
- Pray for Christ to purify and strengthen His people.

CHRIST PURIFIES HIS PEOPLE THROUGH TRUTH, LOVE, REPENTANCE, RESTORATION, AND FAITHFUL COVENANT LIFE TOGETHER. ONE LORD. ONE KINGDOM. ONE PEOPLE.