

- a. To vindicate the honor of Christ
- b. To promote the purity of the church
- c. To reclaim the offender

Administrative discipline is carried out by means of God-given agencies employing God-given principles or right conduct in the administrative work of the church. These include the election of scriptural administrative officers, and the adoption of scripturally-consonant administrative policies and procedures, to carry out the scripturally-ordained administrative functions of the church.

Judicial discipline is carried out by means of God-given agencies employing God-given principles of right conduct in the Judicial work of the church. These include the establishment of scriptural judicial bodies, and the adoption of scripturally-consonant judicial policies and procedures to carry out the scripturally-ordained judicial functions of the church.

E. The Recipients of Discipline

Who are to be the recipients of discipline? Any reply to this question other than one that includes all persons connected with the church suggests that certain individuals or classes are exempt from correction of offenses or free from offenses altogether! This question raises some relevant issues:

1. Are all members, associate members, and adherents subject to church discipline, or does discipline pertain to members only? Does church discipline pertain to persons outside the church, such as nonbelieving spouses or rebellious children of members?
2. Are members of all categories subject to church discipline, including founding members as well as new members, wealthy members as well as poor members, big givers as well as pew-sitters, socially prominent members as well as socially nondescript members, well-educated members as well as poorly-educated or uneducated members, active members as well as occasional members?
3. Are all officers, including elders, deacons, and extra-biblical officers, subject of discipline? Is the chairman or moderator of the Board subject to discipline?
4. Are pastors subject to church discipline? If so, who disciplines them? Are founding/planting pastors subject to discipline? Are pastors who are accused of heresy or immorality subject to discipline if they immediately resign and go elsewhere, or are they subject to discipline only if they attempt to found a new church nearby, using as a core that faction of the local church that leaves with them?
5. Are leaders and members of parachurch organizations subject to discipline if they commit public acts in doctrine or practice that are contrary to the Word of God but do so in the context of the organizations with which they serve? Or are such persons exempt from discipline?