

Study Guide Questions

Series: TD12

Message: Discipline & Grace

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ENGAGE THE SCRIPTURES

Memory Verse: 1 Timothy 4:7-8

Have nothing to do with godless myths and old wives' tales; rather, train yourself to be godly. For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come.

Read Matthew 18:15-20

- What steps did Jesus lay out for helping believers grow and overcome their sin? Can these same principles be applied when confronting a non-believer? If not, what should our posture be towards unbelievers who are living an unrepentant lifestyle? See Colossians 4:2-6 & 1 Corinthians 5:9-13.
- If the Bible were written today, do you think Jesus would say, "If your brother sins against you, go text, Facebook, email, or phone him?" What are the advantages and disadvantages of these methods of communication? Do you agree that in-person conversation is best when having a conversation about sin?
- What are some reasons why Christians are afraid to go and tell other Christians how they have sinned against them? Which one of these reasons applies to you? New Covenant has a cultural value of **Courage**. How can you have courage and overcome your fear in this area?
- When we read this passage the tendency is to read ourselves into the passage as the one confronting someone else about their sin...because I don't sin... 😞. If someone confronts you about your sin, how do you respond? What are some of the motivations and reasons why you or any particular person would not repent when confronted with sin or wrongdoing?



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- What is the goal of reaching out to a person who has committed a sin or is living in unrepentant sin? How does including others in the process help bring about restoration? What should be our posture as we engage in these conversations?

Read Matthew 18:21-35

- How many times are we supposed to forgive others? Should we take Jesus' response literally (forgive someone 77 times) or metaphorically (forgive abundantly)? How does the parable help answer this question?
- Jesus tells a parable in response to Peter's question. Who are the main characters in the parable and who do they represent? What are the debts that are owed and how does this relate to sin? Where do you see yourself in this parable?
- What three things does the master initially do for the servant (v. 27)? Why is each act significant?
- Do you ever struggle to extend mercy/grace to someone who has wronged you? Is there anyone with whom you do not want to share the gospel? What makes you feel this way? What step can you take today to help you change your perspective toward them?
- What is the difference between providing forgiveness via lipservice versus "forgive your brother from your heart"? What happens if we do not forgive others? See also Matthew 6:14-15.



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