**Withdrawing From Disorderly Brethren**

*2 Thessalonians 3:6*

**Introduction**

* This is not a fun thing to do.
  + Matthew 10:34-39 (It is necessary to please God.)
* It is not popular among many.
  + *How is this going to help?*
  + *This doesn’t seem like it would work!*
* God’s ways are the only ways that work.
  + 1 Corinthians 3:18-19 (World thinks wisdom of gospel/God is foolishness. Wisdom of world is foolish to God. Fool to world, become wise through God’s wisdom.)
  + Isaiah 55:8-9 (God’s ways are greater than ours.)

1. 1 Corinthians 5
2. There was obvious sin (v. 1). (unrepentant sinner – Matthew 18:15-17)

* Paul was shocked to hear they were tolerating such.
* This should have caused them to take action (v. 2).
  + They should be sad a brother is in sin, rather than being arrogant about being tolerant of him.
  + They should take action by withdrawing.

1. Instruction to withdraw from the sinner (v. 4-5).

* “Gathered together” (in the assembly)
  + To bring fear to others.
  + So everyone knows who to withdraw themselves from.
  + So everyone can know to give an effort to save the individual.
  + The entire congregation must be involved for it to be effective.
* “With the power” (by His authority)
* “Deliver to Satan” (destruction of flesh – painful consequence of sin; bring shame to them)
  + Those walking in sin are not Christ’s. 🡪

1. Withdrawing accomplishes…

* Saving the brother (v. 5).
* Protecting the church (v. 7-13).
  + (v. 6) this will spread! *“Evil company corrupts good habits”* (15:33 – deny resurrection)
  + Not talking about unbelievers (v. 10).
  + Talking about a brother (v. 11)
    - The degree of withdraw – (v. 11 – “not to even eat with such a person”) This goes further than the assembly! Don’t condone their actions!

1. Failure to withdraw?

* Is sinful! (v. 2, 6).
  + They are “puffed up” thinking they were great for accepting him *(“We are loving enough to tolerate him.”),* but in reality they were sinning.
  + They are glorying as if keeping him around was better than God’s instruction!
  + Must not tolerate sin!

1. The motive is love.

* 1 Corinthians 4:14; James 5:19-20; Galatians 6:1-2

1. 2 Corinthians 2:3-11
2. The sin caused grief (v. 5).

* And so… 🡪

1. The Punishment is Sufficient (v. 6).

* It is fit for the man.
* It caused repentance! It worked! What they did was sufficient so now they should 🡪

1. Forgive him and comfort him (v. 7-8, 10-11).

* Lest he is swallowed in sorrow.
  + “Love…thinks no evil” (1 Corinthians 13:5) – Takes no account of evil.

1. Withdrawing is obedience (v. 9).

* Failing to withdraw is sin, for it is disobedience.

1. Not just for sexual immorality!

* 2 Thessalonians 3:6-9 (Idleness)
* Romans 16:17-18 (Divisive people)
* Revelation 2:14-16 (False teachers – church in Pergamos)

**Conclusion**

* Church discipline is not a suggestion. It’s a command.
* God knows the best way to handle situations. These ways are most effective.
* Who are we to say we know better?!