

## **Church Discipline Discussion Questions**

1. What is the difference between what Jesus taught in Matthew 7:1-6 and what He said in Matthew 18:17, 18 about offenses?
2. Does Romans 14 and 15 apply? Why or why not?
3. Why is church discipline so important and what is the purpose of it?
4. What must take place before there can be forgiveness for an offense from God and others?
5. How can we *express* forgiveness before the conditions are met?
6. What six different types of offenses are there and into what two categories can they be classified?
7. What offenses might be considered personal and what is the first step towards restoration in this case? How might this be preventative of more serious offenses?
8. How are disruptive offenses to be dealt with?
9. For what offenses would a person be ex-communicated from the church for and who exercises this discipline?
10. Explain the process of dealing with an offense from the first step to the last. Take into consideration all types of offenses.

Finally, we all need to carefully examine our own hearts knowing that each of us has likely been guilty of one of these offenses at some point in our lives, whether it be unpremeditated, personal, moral, etc. Let us seek forgiveness from our Lord and ask His protection from engaging in those offenses in the future. For by so doing we hinder the work of the Lord both in our lives and in the local assembly.