

## I. God Holds us Accountable

*"So then, each of us will give an account of ourselves to God." -Romans 14:12*

*"And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account." -Hebrews 4:13*

*"For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad" -2 Corinthians 5:10*

*".. before The Lord comes, who will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Then each one will receive his commendation from God." - 1 Corinthians 4:5*

## II. The Discipline of Christian Accountability: What is it?

**-A means by which God draws us, through the friendship and fellowship of other believers, to Himself.**

*"And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near." -Hebrews 10:24-25*

*"But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called "today," that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin." -Hebrews 3:13*

*"Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ." -Galatians 6:2*

*"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom..." -Colossians 3:16*

*"Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed." -James 5:16*

*"Therefore encourage one another and build one another up." -1 Thessalonians 5:11*

Spiritual Disciplines  
Accountability

"As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another." -Proverbs 27:17

"... the sweetness of a friend comes from his earnest counsel." -Proverbs 27:9

## II. The Discipline of Accountability: Why Should We Pursue It?

### 1. Temptations to Sin and onslaught from our enemy is sure to come.

- "Temptations to sin are sure to come....." Luke 17:1

- "I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand." -Romans 7:21

- "But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desire is to have you, but you must rule over it."

- "Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour." -1 Peter 5:8

### 1. Winning is a team effort.

- "Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up! Again, if two lie together, they keep warm, but how can one keep warm alone? And though [an enemy] might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him—a threefold cord is not quickly broken." -Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

### 2. We are children of the light.

- "For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness." -1 Thess. 5:5

- "And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed. But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God." -John 3:19-21

- "Whoever conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy." -Proverbs 28:13

#### **4. You are not as strong as you think.**

*"Let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall."* - 1 Corinthians 10:12

*"Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall."* - Proverbs 16:18

#### **5. God gives grace to the humble.**

*"God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble."* - James 4:6

*"Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working."* - James 5:16

### **III. The Discipline of Christian Accountability: How Do We Do It?**

#### **1. Confidentiality is Key**

*"Whoever goes about slandering reveals secrets, but he who is trustworthy in spirit keeps a thing covered."* - Proverbs 11:13

#### **2. Confess Specifically and Give Full Disclosure**

#### **3. Pursue People in Your Current Sphere**

#### **4. The Smaller, the More Vulnerable**

#### **5. Actually Hold them Accountable**

#### **6. Pray *For* and *With* Them.**