



**Parts 3 & 4: How Does a Vibrant Church Make Decisions?
Does My Church Have to Practice Church Discipline?
October 10, 2010 * Bethel Baptist Church * Tim Davis
Hebrews 12:1-13**

Decisions: vv.1-4

1. WE are in this together. v.1
In the Greek, the first person plural personal pronoun (we, us) is expressly used three times in verse 1.
2. WE are not the first. v.1
The cloud of witnesses spurs us on.
3. WE must give our best. vv.1&3
4. WE must focus on Jesus. vv.2-4

Discipline: vv.5-13

The Beginning of Church Discipline

1. Discipline in the church is based on the model of discipline in the loving human family.
2. Discipline in the church is built on the example of discipline from the loving Heavenly Father.

Four Benefits of Discipline

1. Discipline proves that we are loved & accepted by God. v.6
2. Discipline proves that we are true sons of God. vv.7&8
3. Discipline produces respect for those who administer it. v.9
4. Discipline produces a harvest of holiness, righteousness & peace. vv.10&11

2010 Bethel Prayer Guide

Use this guide to unite your heart & prayers with your Bethel family.

1. *Dear Lord, i surrender my life to You: every word, every action, every thought, & every attitude. May Your will be done in me as it is in Heaven. Dear Lord, please nurture a passion within me for holiness. Please help me to become more like You, and less like the world every day.*

2. *Dear Lord, please use me to draw others to You. Please make me a light in the darkness for Your glory alone. May everyone i have contact with today, see You in me.*

3. *Dear God, i am serious about growing up in my salvation. Please help me understand Your perfect Word as i study it each day. Please help me worship You more deeply as i seek You every day.*

4. *Lord, please bring supernatural unity to our church so we may grow, and glow for Your glory. Please protect our members and staff from evil.*

5. *Lord, please give courage and encouragement to our missionaries around the world, and our brothers and sisters around the world who are persecuted for their faith in Jesus Christ.*

6. *God, please reveal Yourself through answered prayer. Please show us Your power by giving us the land at Roberts Road & Old Mill Road. Please show us Your goodness by making our nursery into a healthy, beautiful place for kids to fall in love with You. Please show us Your glory by giving us a beautiful playground. Please reveal your nature by providing for the completion of the new restrooms in our children's building.*

7. *Heavenly Father, please heal _____*
