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Disciplines of a godly man pdf chapter 12

Opening Remarks - There is an intended framework for this section on character. The author begins by discussing integrity and character in Chapter 10, then in Chapters 11 and 12 he discusses how integrity/character manifests itself by (1) what we say (the tongue) and (2) what we do (our work/actions). The author concludes by discussing the discipline of perseverance in Chapter 13 — this logically follows because perseverance should be an attribute when integrity is applied to language/words and actions/acts. Chapter 10 – Discipline of Integrity Any realistic survey would show that American culture is in great trouble. But the crisis is not just a cultural problem, it is a problem for the people. But the main reason for the integrity crisis is that we humans are fundamentally dishonest. We are congenital liars (p. 126). The author refers to the words of Paul in Romans 3:13, their tongues perceiving deception. But: God desires truth in the inner parts. Psalm 51:6. Take-Away Point: Do not be deceived or deceive yourself. Solution: Integrity is one of the greatest needs of the Church today (p. 127). So, never (1) cheat/ steal/ cheat; (2) Keep your word; and (3) be a man of principle. Truth telling is a discipline. We must discipline ourselves in order to always tell the truth. From the book section Think about it!: Read Psalm 15 and make a list of all the characters or personal actions mentioned that relate to integrity and their companions, truth, and honesty. Then go back through the list and indicate how they feel at each point (poor, fair, varied, consistently obedient, etc.) Pray now for God's help to live all these things (p. 133). Chapter 11 – Discipline of tongue tongue discipline is a related fruit of the discipline of integrity. As an example of the destructive power of the tongue, the author cites the Boxer Rebellion of 1899 in China. So: do not doubt or underestimate the power of the tongue (cf. p. 137f). The tongue has intrinsic power (James 3:1-4), e.g. the way a rudder controls a ship, and the tongue has destructive and corruptive power (James 3:5-6), e.g. gossip, innuendo, flattery, criticism and reduction. A true text of a person's spirituality is not his ability to speak as we can think, but his ability to rein in his tongue (p. 142). Therefore, the author recommends that we (1) ask God to discipline your tongue, (2) ask God to cauterize our lips (cf. Isaiah 6:5), (3) ask God to impress this necessity as an ongoing prayer, (4) to strive to remember the Scriptures that teach the correct use of the tongue (see all excerpts from the tongue from the Book of Proverbs). 275-278). Chapter 12 – Work Discipline Both sloth and overload are a contemporary epidemic (p. 147). Work is important to God. Christians are called to get dominion for Jesus. Men must focus on Him all about your work—your attitude, integrity, intensity, and skills (p. 152). We Get Dominion for Jesus Jesus Applying excellence to our craft/skill/vocation/vocation: work that is truly Christian is well done work (p. 154). Author's assessment test: (1) Do I do my work for the glory of God? (2) Do I honestly work hard? (3) Do I work with enthusiasm? (4) Do I work with all my heart? (5) Am I doing an excellent job? Chapter 13—Discipline of perseverance We must endure integrity, remain in our speech, and act—to do so, we must focus on Jesus Christ and overcome obstacles, afflictions, etc. Christians must cultivate the virtues of hope and joy. If we focus on the joy that Christ has brought before us, we will endure the sufferings of this world and dismiss as nothing any shame that has occurred in His name. And we will run the race to his glory (p. 163). The discipline of perseverance confronts us (p. 164f): (1) Divest. Discontinuation of sin. . . . (2) Running. Run our own race, the race that God has marked for us. . . . (3) Focus. We must focus on Jesus. . . . (4) Consider. We have to look at him (Jesus). Our lives should be spent reflecting on how He lived (cf. Hebrews 12:1-3). Questions and a summary of the results of my Church (CPRC) Men's Bible Study A MUST for all eager and conscientious followers of the Lord Jesus DISCIPLINES OF A GODLY MAN CHAPTER 1 Questions 1.What does 'disciples' mean and what do you think, after reading chapter one, is the main idea of this book? 2.What does the world of sport teach us about Christian life? See Paul's illustrations in 1 Cor.9:25-27 1 Tim.4:7,8 Eph.6:12. What words mean effort? 3.What is the difference between the outstanding in an earthly pursuit e.g. sports, musical skills or mathematics and grow in divinity? See 1 Cor.4:7 Rome.3:10 and Eph.2:1 4.Hughes says:as children of grace spiritual discipline is all - isn't this a contradictory statement (i.e. isn't grace undeserved favor?) see HC LD45 John 17:17 and Westminster Larger Catechism Q154 5.What does training mean for an Olympic event? What is the spiritual equivalent for the believer? i.e. spiritual discipline Why is this important? 6.What holds us back? (Heb 12:1) What puts every weight aside so we can run? What holds us back or gets in our way? 7.What is the difference between legalism and discipline? 8.Why does spiritual movement (discipline) make a difference? 1 Tim.4:7,8. Rome 8:13. Isaiah 40:31. And what difference? 9.How much does this discipline cost? Are you willing to pay the price? Why or why not? 10.Where is the source of power for this discipline? (2 Tim.1:7) Can we become disciplined men of God? Pray for yourself and others in response to what you have learned. Chapter 1 for divinity 1) A disciple is a learner or successor. The disciples spent three years learning from Him, and learning, as in mastering any discipline such as medicine, carpentry, or driving, requires effort. The world of sport teaches us a lot about Christian life. The word exercise in 1 1 4:7 is 'gummaso' is the word from which we get high school, a word that means to train naked ie hard, sweating, training. Paul in 1 Corinthians 9:25-27 used the word buffet or subdivided meaning to disable by slathered on the cheek to describe his attitude to his body /sinful flesh. We also have 'Wrestle' in Ephesians 6:12 and run in Galatians 5:7 and Hebrews 12-all mean physical, and by inference spiritual, effort in our Christian life. 2) The difference between the outstanding in an earthly ability or sport and growing in deity is that innate (hereditary) ability counts in the former, but in the second we all begin from scratch i. dead in total depravity then regenerated.1 Cor.4:7, Eph.2:1. But even brilliant men like Leonardo Da Vinci and Winston Churchill worked very their jobs. 3) The growth of grace does not contradict spiritual discipline, because God has ordained means by which we grow (see HC LD45 and WCF LC Q154 handouts on the table) The means of grace are the word (preached, read, studied, memorized and meditated on handouts), the reading of good Christian books and magazines, the sacraments, the testimony, the testimony. 4) Training for the Olympic Games involves diligence and commitment, commitment of time, coaching and personal discipline ends in competition and performance. Likewise in spiritual matters and in practice, we need personal and family devotions around The Word and Prayer, regular visits to the Church, personal reading, and preparation for BS. Our trainer is Christ, who finished the race and went before us. The goal is our ascending vocation in God's presence. Ps 88:13 emphasizes that the morning is the best time to see God. 5) This is important because as flesh and drink are for the body so is the word to our souls and how breathing and movement are for the body so is prayer to the soul. 6) We are held back by weights that so easily afflict us (Heb.12:1) - these are disproportionate worldly affections and associations and fears, the laziness and desires of the flesh, and the temptations of Satan. Of course, we don't like pain or cross bearings. Lack of spiritual discipline means infertility, immaturity and defeat. 2 Peter 1:5- We must govern ourselves. 7) Legalism is an egocentric, man-made rule that is adhered to in order to earn merit with God, while discipline consists of God-centered and God-pleasing habits. 8) Spiritual discipline versus physical discipline (which uses only the short time we have on earth) brings blessings when we are personally freed from desires and vanities, and has implications for family and church, also on the life to come, where she reaps a harvest of treasures in heaven as we pray, give, and build others in their faith. (Isaiah 40:31,1 Cor.3:10-15). 9) This discipline will cost us everything - a price we must be willing to pay, because if Christ gave his life for us, we too must lose our own life for his life in us. It requires time and effort and consistency (running with the unique marathon race of life that we all have to complete). The temptation in every endurance race is always to be abandoned! 10) We have God's help through the power of His innate Spirit (2 Tim.1:7)-He is the spirit of power to overcome the flesh and sin, the love- to God and others as opposed to self-love and a healthy spirit (true doctrine and self-control). We can all be disciplined men (and women) of God. Pray for this purpose. Disciplines of a God-fearing man Chapter 2 Purity Questions Helpful verses (not exhaustive) Qu 2/3 1 John 2:15,16. Proverbs 5:1 Cor.7:5 Song of Solomon Qu 4 1 Cor.6:18, Job 31:1 Qu 5 Romans 7 Genesis 39. 2 Samuel 11 2 Kings 9:30 Qu 6 Deut 17:17 Qu 9 Mark 6:31, 1 Tim.6:17 Qu11 Hebrews 11;25, Proverbs 5:4,5 Qu 12 2 Samuel 12:11.11. 1 Thess 4:3-6 Qu 13 2 Thess 2:22 1 Thess 5:17 Qu 14 Acts 24:16, Gen.5:22 1 Kings 17:1 1 Cor.10:12. 1. Hughes notes that sensuality (sexual temptation) is easily the greatest obstacle to divinity among men and wreaks havoc in the Church. Discuss 2. Divinity and sensuality are mutually exclusive - why? 3. How is sensuality used in advertising? 4. How can we avoid this bombardment? 5. Why is sexual temptation/sin so ubiquitous and powerful? 6. David had many wives (as opposed to the standard for Hebrew kings). His hugging socially permitted sensuality desensitization and sinned. What lessons can we learn from this? 7. Which legal sensibilities mentioned by Hughes can cause us to fall? Other? 8. How many sins did David commit about adultery with Bathsheba? 9. Is relaxation ever harmful? 10.What does the author mean by God to lust-glazed eyes? 11. How can something that brings so much joy be wrong? 12.What were the consequences for David? 13.In reference to Joseph's resistance to sin, how can we exercise the discipline of divine awareness? 14.What can we do to stay clean amid the prevailing immorality and to protect ourselves from these loops? Disciplines of a God-fearing man Chapter 2 Purity Our Answers 1.Read 1 Corinthians 6:9-20 Almost every church and each of us could tell a story of a great decay of a member or pastor in this area of life and many sins is never publicly known. To love sexual impurity necessarily means not to love God 1 John 2:15-16. Sensual advertising is everywhere. The temptation is to regard women only as sexual objects. Best NOT to even look. Job 31:1 Prov.5:20 Sexual temptation is so powerful because our old man lusts (Romans 7), there will always be evil women (prov.5) who will sell their bodies, and even the lustful thought is sin (Matthew Must deal with it radically. David (and his successors) ignored Deut.17:17, and it caused trouble. There are many legal sensualities that we should avoid, leaving pictures in newspapers and mags, internet, certain TV programs, gross humour, etc. Control the 'Eye Gate'. David broke most of the Ten Commandments in his sin with Bathsheba and the following events, relaxation, neglecting duties and is sinful. There is a place for interests such as sports and hobbies as a break from work. Mark 6:31, 1 Tim.6:17 When lust is conceived, God is forgotten. There is no doubt that sexual sin is pleasant (Hebrews 11:25), but the consequences are terrible (Prov.5:4,5). For David, this meant rebellion from his son, the death of three of his sons, and the temporary loss of his kingdom. Joseph, who fled unwittingly, is our example of the 'discipline of divine awareness'. 'How can I do this great sin against God?' The means to strengthen us - daily devotion, continuous prayer, gratitude. 1 Thess. 5:17, 2 Tim.2:22, Col.3:5, Acts 24:16. To make communion with God our top priority and treasure. Other thoughts that fall into sexual sin destroy our fellowship with others and the usefulness in the Church. DISCIPLINES OF A GODMAN Chapter 3 Marriage 1. What does the relationship between Christ and His Church teach us about marriage? Eph.5:22-33 2. Why do we submit to Christ? 3.How do both relationships begin? (think of the wedding ceremony). Why is this important? 4.What does a meat mean? 5.What are the three aspects of love that Hughes highlights? They all start with 's'. Can you describe them and how they manifest themselves in practice? (Acts 9:4,John 17,1 Peter 3:7). (i) ii) iii) 6.How can we promote the spiritual growth of our women? 7. How do we love each other biblically? 8. What is connected with real communication (in marriage)? CPRC MENS BIBLE STUDY DISCIPLINES OF A GODLY MAN Chapter 3 Marriage Answers 1. Ephesians 5 and other scriptures teach us that marriage relations should reflect those of Christ and the Church. A. It is permanent (only death breaks the marriage bond) b. The man is head and carries out victim guidance. C. The woman presents herself and respects her head. D. The relationship is entered into by the writing of the relationship (confession), e.g. of fidelity and for the better or worse. 2. We should gladly submit to Christ because of his love in the Cross, now and forever. Next, because he is Lord and because it is best for us. 3. Both marriage and the relationship between Christ and the Church are examples of the love of the covenant. In marriage we meet, have a ceremony and then the conclusion. In the covenant we are given Christ in eternal choice, united with Him by faith in time and the reflection of our love will be at the wedding feast. In both relationships, there is now a real commitment to partnerships. 4. A flesh means the union of body and soul, in which two complementary persons really act as one. 5. Love exists: sacrifice-love-death for your own rights, time and joys, suffering with your spouse and prayer for it. Sanctification of mutual love sanctification and revelation of selfishness. Self-love that is the spouse Time and creativity, such as in daily devotion, reading, eating, sleep and exercise. 6.We can promote the spiritual growth of our women by praying for them (e.g. Paul's prayers), sharing what you are learning, learning, Bible study to ask her counsel and opinion. 7.True communication involves genuinely anxious listening, expressing yourself in writing, speaking on the phone or face to face. Spend time and share everything you think, feel and plan (but sometimes not everything and not everything at once) (keep a dual diary/calendar). Compliment, admonition, admonition, gifts. Dates. Chapter 4 Fatherhood 1. Children have a longing for father. Many families lack male leadership. What did you expect and want from your father? Did it happen? Why or why not? 2. Attributes of our Heavenly Father How to practice it 3.Check the questions on p54.viz criticize or build up? Are you impatient or self-directed in dealing with them? Are you consistent in expectations? Do you keep promises? Show favouritism? Are you tender? Do you share discipline? 4. How did Eli and David fail in their upbringing? 1 Samuel 3:11-13, and David? 5. What does Proverbs 22:6 teach and do they do? 6. Hughes says that children need to know that their parents love each other? Why? 7. How important is the counsel (and good books) of the scriptures on education? Pray that the Spirit will empower you to practice the discipline of fatherhood. DISCIPLINES OF A GODLY CHAPTER 4 Paternity reading Ephesians 6:1-4 and Hebrews 12:5-11 1.Children want closeness and sure love from their father. For many children who have fathers, they spend too little time with their children. Many children have no father or safe father, and others are victims of a divorce that is hatred. 2. Attribute of our Heavenly Father How to apply it to love, constant communion and give the children time, hug, pray. Love your wife. Gentleness, tenderness Do not bully knowledge and foresight Ask questions, teach, prepare and save them for Teaches Devotions, Catechism Work Disciplines, Warns Chastisement Gives, Comforts Wise Gifts Help and Leadership Homework, Advice Head Rule Upright and Sacred Example 3. We must praise our children as much as possible and not constantly criticize them. We must not be too strict, but be patient and self-directed and quickly disciplined. We must be consistent in our expectations, keep our promises, show no preference and share discipline with our women. 4 Eli and David (1 Sam.3 and 1 Kings 1) did not wave out and discipline their sons, with the result that they were outraged and brought shame upon their fathers, and they died. 5. Many verses in proverbs lead us to this subject, e.g. chapter 13:24,22:6,23:13,14:29:15,17 In God's covenant, divine training usually means that the child grows up to keep the covenant. 6.Children need to know that their parents love each other because that gives them security. Unsafe and Children often become idiosyncratic rebellious gang members and promiscuous teenagers looking for love among peer-group groups. 7. Fathers and mothers should be prepared to talk about God-fearing examples, faithful sermons, and good books about e.g. Ted Tripp-Good Parenthood is not congenial (built-in). Our goal ... All our children are serious Christians and want their lives to count for Christ. CPRC MEN'S BIBLE STUDY Disciplines of a God-fearing man Chapter 5 Discipline of Friendship 1. Why do we need Christian friends? 2. Do you mention some of the reasons and the blessing of friendship? Don't forget the Trinity 3. What does friendship mean? 4.What do we miss without close friends? 5.What can we learn from Jesus about friendship? (John15) 6. Do you tell so many truths of Christian friendship shown by David and Jonathan? (1 Samuel 14-18) 7.What is the Titus Touch? (2 Corinthians 7:6,7) 8 What does prayer have to do with friendships? 9. How important is hospitality in friendship? (1 Peter 4:9, Hebrews 13:2) 10. What are you looking for with a friend? Are you ready to work on these attributes yourself? 11. What would God do of God in this area of life? Disciplines Chapter 5 (our answers) Friendship Read Colossians 2:2-19 1.Why do we need Christian friends (community)? For as covenant men we are brought into God's covenant - the Trinity - our God is a family (social) God who exists in three persons. We are made to reflect On Him in marriage and community. Genesis 1:26, 2:18. The Trinity exists in loving intimacy. John 17:21-26. Although the people are equal, there is a search for the other that is centered differently. Christ submits to the Father and serves him, and the Spirit glorifies Christ, i.e. submission, sacrifice and service. Since we belong to a body, the body of Christ and the parts can only function if we are connected to each other, just like cells glued together in the body and joints and ligaments.1 Cor 12:12. Eph 4:16. For in the body we have gifts, e.g. to serve, to minister. Eph.4:11,12. 1 Cor.12 Because we all need love, encouragement, admonition, and support (especially prayer). Heb.10:24,25.1 John 4:12,James 5:16, 1 Thess 5:25. Love among the members IS THE GEIST. Because together we are strong. Eccles 4:12 Because we were to be companions of the Godly. Psalm 119:63 in contrast to the wicked (Psalm1) 2.What does friendship mean? Mutual desire to glorify God. Psalm 34:4 Mutual interest, care, and care. Phil.2:4,Gal. 6:2. Help, hospitality, asking questions, listening, emotional empathy. James 1:19 Mutual knowledge and communication. John 15:15.1 Thess 2:8. Society. Awarded. 3.What do we miss without close friends? Feeling of belonging (to the local church esp) Affirmation, intimacy and love. We are slipping back. Admonition (esp eldest) 4. What do we learn from Christ's friendship? He took care of the disciples, shared them with them, admonished and practically helped (fishing, wash). He called, empowered and instructed her, he spent three years as her companion. He ended up putting his life to life for them - the ultimate loving act. 5. The example of David and Jonathan 1 Samuel 14-18 Unity of soul (desire for God's glory, courage). Mutual care and love and in Jonathan's case, which puts David (royal garments) Phil 2:3 and John the Baptist. John 3:30. Titus was able to strengthen brothers with encouraging news. 6. The importance of prayer in friendships. You can't really call someone a friend if you don't pray for them. It is THE means to build friendships, even if it is miles apart - it knows no bounds. Note Paul and Romans (whom he had not met) and all his prayers in the letters. 7. Hospitality is crucial. 1 Peter 4:9, Hebrews 13:2. 8. What to look for with a friend. Trust, loyalty, availability, resources, willingness to overlook mistakes. Different levels e.g. mutual interest e.g. sports, but on a deeper level spiritual interests/goals. Helpful Resources: Trinity in Covenant by Prof. David Engelsma and SB AUG 2012 P445 CPRC Men Bible Study Disciplines Chapter 6 Discipline of the Mind 1 Sept. (DV) 1. Scripture says that our character is determined by our thoughts-Prov.23:7, Mark 7:21, James 1:14,15. Why is that? 2. God knows every thought of always being human or false? Job 42:2, Psalm 94:11,139:2, Matthew 9:4, 1 Cor.3:20. 3. What determines how we think? Fallen man.... Psalm 10:4,Eph 4:18,Matthew 6:23,Genesis 6:5, Psalm 94:11,Romans 1:18-32. The Believer.... 1 Cor.2:16,Rom.12:2,3,7:21-25, Isaiah 26:3, Phil.2:4,5,2 Tim.1:7,Eph 6:10-18,2 Cor.10:3-6 4. What exhortations do we give in scripture about our minds? Prov.4:23, Phil.4:8 5. Can we control what we think? What are the alternatives? Do you agree with Hughes's statement

that Paul's positives in Phil.4:8 call for a resolute rejection of negative inputs? He says: A Christian spirit is impossible without the discipline of denial. 6. What does this mean in practice in terms of what we see, read, hear, and laugh at? 7. How do we apply Psalm 101:2-3, Job 31:1, Matthew 5:29? Luther famously said 'We cannot prevent birds from flying over our heads, but we can prevent them from nesting in our hair! Phil.4:8 Thinking means reckoning, thinking with conscious and prolonged contemplation 8. The positive thing we need to think about all the time? (Ps.119:97-100) Application? Which good Christian books (or sermons) have influenced your thinking? In which areas of your thinking do you struggle to be disciplined? How can one grow into a whole (Shalom/Peace) in these areas? 2 Cor.7:1,10:5,Rom8:13. Discipline of the Spirit (Part 1) Questions 1-6 1. As a man thinks in his heart, so is he. Prov.23:7-10 Scripture teaches us that our character is determined and shown by what we are thinking about. Our thoughts tell us (and God) who we really are- they are mostly hidden from others, but not from (Luke 11:39 Psalm 139:2 Ps 94:11). It is from the inner man (heart) that thoughts come-either good or bad (Prov.12:5,Mark 7:21) 2. The thoughts of the fallen man are only constantly evil (Gen 6:5) because he is a practical atheist (Ps.10:4) He is ignorant of God, spiritually blind, in defire tune, and separated from God. (Eph.4:18) 3. In contrast, the believer has the meaning of Christ through his and is renewed daily, even though he constantly struggles with carnal desires, satanic lies and doubts and fears. (Rom.7:7, 1 Cor.2:16.) The Spirit of Christ is marked by humility (Phil.2:5-8), love for God (Rom.5:5), love for His law (Rom.7:22), and love for His people. (1 John 4:7). 4. We are admonished to keep our hearts (prov.4:28) and to preserve our hearts and minds (Phil 4:6-8), which means our will, our motives, and our goal in life (through prayer v6f) and by thinking of good things. Practically this from contributions from sound preaching, reading, study and community. 5. We should reject evil desires, memories, plans and fantasies, and tear down all fortresses (lies and self-deception) in ourselves and others. (2 Cor.10:3-6). We are also responsible for the gates of our senses (eyes, ears) i.e. what we should observe and hear and be self-directed (2 Tim.1:7). Satan tries us with our desires*, and his demons inspire false teachings that can mislead us. (1 Tim.4:1). We have the ability to resist Him and to be victorious through the armor of God. (Eph.6:10-18.1 Cor.10:13.James 4:7) Sexual pleasure* is one of the most common promising short-term pleasures, but spoil our relationship with God. Fornication is the only temptation we are told not to resist, but to flee! Next BS (DV) Sat 22 Sept 2pm on Questions 6-8 Westminster Larger Catechism Question 137: What is the seventh commandment? Answer: The seventh commandment is: Tamed shall not commit adultery. Question 138: What duties are required in the Seventh Commandment? Answer: The duties required in the seventh commandment are chastity in body, spirit, affection, words, and behavior; and its preservation in ourselves and in others; Vigilance over the eyes and all the senses; Temperament, attitude of chaste society, modesty in clothing; Marriage by those who do not have the gift of perseverance, marital love and coexistence; diligent work in our vocation; to avoid all opportunities of impurity and to resist temptation. Question 139: What are the sins forbidden in the seventh commandment? Answer: The sins forbidden in the Seventh Commandment are, in addition to neglecting the necessary duties, adultery, fornication, rape, incest, sodomy, and all unnatural desires; all impure fantasies, thoughts, intentions and affections; all corrupt or dirty communications or listen to them; muton sees, outrageous lyotoriously or easily behavioral, indecent clothing; Prohibition of lawful marriages and renunciation of unlawful marriages; allow, tolerate, hold and resort to stew; tangled vows of single life, unjustified delay of marriage; have more wives or husbands than one at the same time; Unjust or desertion; idleness, gluttony, drunkenness, chaste company; lascivious songs, books, pictures, dances, plays; and all other provocations or acts of impurity, either within ourselves or in others. CPRC Men's BS 'Disciplines of a God-Fearful Man' Discipline of mind (Part 2) Questions 7.What do these verses tell us? Psalm 101:2,3 Job 31:1 Matthew 5:29 8. What should we admonish to think about it and think about it? Phil.4:8 Psalm 119:97-100, 2 Cor. 3:18 What habits usually produce physical health? What are the corresponding habits that generate mental health? 9.In what areas of the Spirit do you struggle with? How can you grow? Can there be strongholds that must be broken in the life of a believer? 10.What is temptation and what steps does Satan take? Genesis 3. James 1:12-14 11.How is temptation good for us? 12.How can we help each other to triumph over temptation? 1 Cor.10:12,13 James 5:16 1 John 1:9 Why should we pray especially for the elders and servants of the Church? 7. The verses (Psalm 101:2,3 Job 31:1 and Matthew 5:29) exhort us to consider what we are looking at - we must be careful and indeed ruthless with our eye 'gate' e.g. pornography, women we see in the street. Why? We do not want to offend our God and lose close communion with Him, and when we are married, we must be content and grateful for our spouse and have no reason to look elsewhere! 8. We should reflect on Scripture and good reformed and Christian books. Psalm.119:97-100, 2 Cor.3:18 Psalm 48:9 Rom.12:3.The Word of Words (which adheres firmly to the Bible) consists of five fingers corresponding to hearing, reading, studying, memorization and meditating (thumbs). Physical health comes from good food, fresh air, exercise, sleep and friends and relationships - the spiritual equivalents are the taking up of scripture, prayer, community and witness. 9. It was generally clear that lust was probably the main area in which we struggle to control our minds, but besides are spiritual laziness, false attitudes toward fellow believers, and fornicability. (Eph.4:27). There may still be fortresses of sinful habits, thought patterns and sinful motives in the believers, and the answer to them may be stronger truthful arguments that we can draw downwards. 2 Cor.10:3-6.The gospel is logical and reasonable. We are admonished to cleanse ourselves of all the impurity of the flesh and the Spirit. 2 Cor.7:1.Rome.7:22,23.8:6 and 12-15.Col.3:2.It must be a conscious discontinuation of the carnal old man and a dressing of the new man. (Eph.4,22-27) We can have the meaning of Christ, our new spiritual nature, to which we must submit. If we slip back or fall into a sinful rod, only God can restore us. 2 Tim.2:24,25. James 5:15-20. Proverbs 20:12. 10. Satan has not removed his fortresses from antiquity (2 Cor.2:11). Four steps to sin: a) Desire-infused lust of the eyes or flesh, or sowing of sinful pride in pleasure, revenge, etc. Gen 3 James 1:14,4.1.2. Desire for excessive sex, food, sleep, or impress (make a show..... you will be like God') Doubt:'Has God said....' Heb.3:12. c) Deception - a lie-t die."" no one will ever know" it is only a small sin' d) disobedience - the sinful deed is done. What turns people into suicide bombers, participates in mass, wears amulets, smokes, gets drunk, takes drugs, takes, believe in false religions LIES! (2 Thess.2:11). Temptation and trial are inevitable. We are all equal (1 Cor.10:12,13 Heb.4:15,16). Satan knows our weaknesses. Watching and praying (Matthew 26:41) Self-discipline is basically teaching yourself to do the right thing, your duty, not what you like. Temptation is good for us. Luther said they were his masters in divinity. When we are tested and tested and we emerge victorious, we are purified, our character develops, and our dependence on God grows. (1 Peter 1:6,7) The fruit of the Spirit is slowly maturing. For example, if God wants us to learn patience or integrity, He will try our patience and we will be tempted to be dishonest. 11. We can help each other to be victorious by sharing our weaknesses and sins and praying for one another. (James 5:16). This is especially true for our church leaders, who are our standard bearers. The armor of God is our defense against doubt and fear (protection of faith and protection of salvation), accusations (breastplate of justice), despair and lies (belt of truth, sword of the Spirit) and all fear/necessity of wisdom (prayer without ceasing). Eph.6:10-18). To resist temptation and walk in the Spirit, we need true doctrine, zeal, a good conscience, and the fullness of the Spirit. Disciplines Chapter 7 Devotion Questions 1. Why is prayer an important part of the Christian walk? What forms should it take? How can it be promoted? 2. Write down what you think of meditation? What can it do for us? 3. Why is the Bechte an important part of devotion? 4. How does God know everything you think and influence you? 5. Do you take time to hear his voice and communicate with him? 6. When is the best? 7. What keeps you from doing this? 8. What are you going to do about it? 9. What facets of true worship can be found in Psalm 146-150, Luke 1:46-55, Revelation 4:5.Isaiah 6:8 Romans 12:1. 10. What do you think of the list of anthem writers on page 91? 11. What does Hughes say is the ultimate act of worship? (p92-3) OUR PRIVILEGE Belgian Confession, Article 26; Day 5: Access to Divine Majesty by The Rev. Martyn McGeown Romans 5:2: By whom we also have access to this grace in which we stand by faith. Our first examination of this beautiful article of our credential confession focused on the negative: we have no access to God. But, Peter says, Christ once suffered for sin, the righteous for the unjust, that he may bring us to God (1 Pet. 3:18). With our only mediator and intercessor, our Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, who unites the two natures in one person, we have access to the presence of God. Thus the Son of God became man, so that we human beings may have access to the divine majesty Access to divine majesty means, first, that we can stand in God's presence without fear. We need not be afraid to approach God, as if He were destroying us if we got too close. We have access. We have the right and ability to approach God. In fact, and here is the miracle of everything, we have a greater and freer and richer approach to God God even the angels. We have the same access to God as Christ Himself. You may want to meet someone who is very important. What you need is someone who introduces you, who will recommend you. But we have the Son of God who introduces us to the Father. Through his work as a mediator (His perfect life and atoning death, as well as His resurrection, ascension, dominion to God's right hand and constant intercession) he gains us access to God. Access to divine majesty means, secondly, that we have fellowship with God. Think of a mighty king. His servants have access to him: they can approach him to serve him. Ordinary citizens do not have this access. But our approach is more than that of a servant. This is the access that angels have. Our access is children's access to a father. This is a sweeter, narrower, more intimate approach. The children sit on the father's lap, whisper in his ear, sit at his table and share his life. That, to speak reverently, is the kind of access we have through our mediator. We enjoy the love of the Father; He draws us into community and community; He calls us to pray to him; He speaks to us in the word; He lives in our hearts through His Spirit; He showers us with blessings; and he has promised that we will live with him. Goodness and mercy will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell forever in the house of the Lord (Ps 23:6). This access belongs to us because Christ bought it for us. We, the poor, guilty sinners, justified Christ, and the Father adopted. The adoption papers are signed in the blood of Christ, our older brother, who brought us to the father's house. And we enjoy this access through faith, by believing in Jesus Christ, our only mediator and intercessor! DISCIPLINES OF A GODCHAPTER7 Devotion Answers 1.Es gives many reasons why prayer is an essential part of a Christian's devotional life: a)Christ commands us to pray, to seek, to knock. Matthew 6 with promises. 1 Tim.2:1 even though he knows our needs before we and ask to pray for the salvation of others, his eternal decree of election and damnation. Rom.10:1 b)We must pray to resist the temptation of Matthew 26:41 and to obtain. James 1:5 (c)Prayer glorifies Christ when we show our dependence and faith and glory in His answers. Ps.116:1,2. Ps. 65:2 Prayer is the vital conversation of the Christian's breath and covenant with our Heavenly Father. Prayer can take the form of a decommitted time or be extemporan (spontaneous). see Gen.24, Gen.24. We can pray about everything and everything. Phil.4:6,7. Ps.51:6 we should be absolutely honest with God and pray with heart. Aspects of Prayer: APOSTELS Adoration (Praise), Confession, Thanksgiving, Supplicant (Questions) 2. Meditation is a reflection on the word that we have preached or read or studied or memorized to apply to ourselves. Ps.11:2 Ps.119:59.60. Ps 139 Ps 63. Why is Scripture vital in Denhingen? a)It constantly converts us Ps.19:7.Rome 12:1 b)There is wisdom Ps.119:97,98 c)It imparts faith to Rome.10:14 d)It is a mirror and face of Christ that sanctifies us. John 17:7. 2 Cor.3:18 James 1:22-25 3 Confession is important because we must keep a clean slate with God for him to answer. Acts 24:15. Ps.66:18. Prov.28:13,14. 1 John 1:9.4. The fact that God knows everything about us humiliates us, comforts us, and should cause us to worship Him. 5-8.We should take daily time to meet him as psalmist and Christ and Daniel. Ps.55:17,Ps.5:3 Ps 88:9.Ps.63:1.The morning is best when they are freshest and have the day ahead. Hold a prayer list family, friends, church, missions and the whole world. Use a mobile phone or computer. 9-11 Psalms 146-150, Luke 1:46-55.Revelation 4:5. Isaiah 6:8. Rom 12:1,2 Heb.13:15 These verses reflect two great truths: first, that praise is a sacrifice, and so subjugation and consecrate to God, yes, it is the last act of worship. Take my life and let it be consecrated to you as Lord. What privileged people we have to have access to an almighty, loving Heavenly Father. Disciplines Chapter 8 Questions of Prayer Read Ephesians 6:10-20 and HC LD 45.1.Why is prayer of the utmost importance in our pilgrimage and warfare? 2. What is prayer in the Spirit? Jude 20. See also Matthew 6, Eph.1, a Roman.10:1, Rev 7:9 3. Why is perseverance emphasized in prayer? Luke 18:1-5 4.Is it possible to pray all the time? 1 Thess.5:17 5. What different petitions can you make for yourself (and others)? The Lord's Prayer, James 1:5. 1 Tim.2:2. 6.What about the company prayer? Acts 1:14, Exodus 17, Matthew 26:40. 7. Why is a language of vital importance to us? And perhaps above all our ministers? Eph.1, 6:19,20 What shall we pray for them? 8. Who should be on our prayer list? 9. What preparations are required for this discipline? 10. What is prayer? 11.Why is it a struggle to pray? Disciplines of a God-fearing man Chapter 8 PRAYER 1.Prayer is of the essence of our covenant relationship with our Father it is COMMUNION, WORSHIP (Heb.13:15), (HC LD 45)WARFARE (Eph 6:10-20,Mat.26:41)and WORK (and a good work-provided, it is 1) in accordance with God's commands 2) of faith and 3) for God's Lord. 2.Im To pray is to pray according to the Word of God. We pray for daily physical needs - food, warmth, shelter, work, healing and spiritual needs-hearts worship, confession, and supplications for all spiritual blessings for us and our brethren (Your will be done-His commandments). Your kingdom comes-workers for the harvest, the salvation of Jews and elect representatives of all tribes and nations, of the persecuted, of our authorities. Jew 20. Matthew 6.Paul Prayers e.g. Eph.Phil and Col.1.Matt.9:38. Rev.7.9 Rome 10:1.Heb.13:3.1 Tim.2:2.Ezek.22:30.James 5:16. 3. Perseverance in prayer is emphasized (Luke 18:1-5) because God makes us wait for answers from Hab:2.3 and Isaiah 30:18, often with the aim of changing us. 4.It is possible to be constantly in a prayerful attitude and to send spontaneous prayers to God. 1 Thess. 5:17 5.We can pray for ourselves, and our brothers are also over-physical and spiritual needs. Among the clergy are: for the Spirit, liberation from evil, wisdom, a dignified walk, thanks for the brothers, revelation, sincerity, love, hope, fruit, patience and long-suffering, strength and peace in the Church. Matthew 6.Eph.1:16-19.3:14-19.James 1:5. 6.Corporate prayer is important, and there are many examples in Acts and promises attached eg Acts 1:14,Matthew 18:19. We should do more to find a partner or partner. 7.Intercession is crucial for our fellow pilgrims and church leaders/pastors, because we need grace every day, as we are attacked daily and especially pastors, and their preaching/teaching will only be effective through the Spirit. Paul's prayers are an excellent example, and we should remember our marriages, parents/children, and our testimony. 8.Prayer Lists are a useful helper memoir and could include church consistency, church members, family, unsaved friends, authority holders, missions, and persecuted. 9.Preparations for prayer make a time, choose an undisturbed place and have an incentive (Bible reading, good book). Have an appointment with God and keep him braised. Corrie Ten Boom. 10.Prayer pours out your heart to God. It is a sacrifice, self-denial, admission of need, love for others, adoration, war, SPIRITUAL WORK - these are reasons why it is hard and a struggle to achieve it! It is against our flesh (natural pride and independence). Remember that spiritual good is never done without the word and prayer, which is why the Apostles have given themselves to these disciplines. True prayer should be heartfelt and not measured by oratorical length. The ineffective fervent prayer of a righteous man is of great benefit. James 5:16 1.Es gives many reasons why prayer is an essential part of a Christian's devotional life: a)Christ commands us to pray, to seek, to knock. Matthew 6 with promises. 1 Tim.2:1 even though he knows our needs before we and ask to pray for the salvation of others, his eternal decree of election and damnation. b)We must pray to resist the temptation of Matthew 26:41 and gain wisdom. James 1:5 (c)Prayer glorifies Christ, we show our dependence and our faith and our glory in His answers. Ps.116:1,2. Ps. 65:2 Prayer is the vital conversation of the Christian's breath and covenant with our Heavenly Father. Prayer can take the form of a disused time, or extemporane (spontaneous) can see Gen.24, Neh.2:4. We can pray above everything and Phil.4:6,7. Ps.51:6 we should be absolutely honest with God and pray with heart. Aspects of Prayer: APOSTELS Adoration (Praise), Confession, Thanksgiving, Supplicant (Questions) 2. Meditation is a reflection on the word that we have preached or read or studied or memorized to apply to ourselves. Ps.11:2 Ps.119:59.60. Ps 139 Ps 63. Why is Scripture vital in Denhingen? a)It constantly converts us Ps.19:7.Rome 12:1 b)There is wisdom Ps.119:97,98 c)It imparts faith to Rome.10:14 d)It is a mirror and face of Christ that sanctifies us. John 17:7. 2 Cor.3:18 James 1:22-25 3 Confession is important because we must keep a clean slate with God for him to answer. Acts 24:15. Ps.66:18. Prov.28:13,14. 1 John 1:9.4. 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What is the top priority of our lives? 5.How should we prepare for the divine service on the Lord's Day? Practical? Mentally? 6. What does spirit and truth mean? (John 4:24) 7. Where would we disagree with Hughes in divine services? Pages 116/117 8. What are some helpful practical hints he gives? Pages 118/119 9. What is worship after Paul in Romans 12:17 10. Do you think of some cases in your life when you worshipped/given special thanks to God? 11. Look at Genesis 24:26 ff and Acts 16:25- what can we learn from these verses? (1 Thess 5:18) 12. What motivates you to worship? DISCIPLINES Chapter 9 Divine Service 1. Adoration is of the utmost importance to the Christian, for 1) It is our vocation and a commandment of John 4:23 Psalm 45:11.2) It is God 3) He glorifies Him 4) It is of the essence of communion with God Ps.95:6. 2. The divine service is focused on God and he likes it. Our blessing is a by-product. 3. Public Adoration governed by the regulatory principle, which states that we do only what is expressly offered in Scripture, namely, call to worship and blessing (vote), psalm singing, prayer, reading of scripture, giving alms/giving, preaching/teaching, doxology. 4. Christ is present in public worship. Matt.28:20, Ps.22:22,25,40.9.10.Heb.2:12.Rev.2:1. If he is not (as in many renegade churches) 'Ichabod' can be written through their doors - 'Glory is gone'. 5. The first priority of our lives is to walk in communion with God, and this is expressed in daily devotion, adoration, thanksgiving, and the search for His first Kingdom. Whatever we do, we can be preoccupied with God. 6. Preparing for the Lord's Day means preparing and going to bed the day before to have enough sleep. Prayer for preaching, service and communion is important. 7. To worship in the Spirit and in the truth means with all your heart, through the Spirit, and according to the Scriptures. The opposite is hypocrisy. Mark 7:6,7. 8. We are different from the author in terms of singing and choirs, which we both do not do. 9. In the sermon it helps to take notes and pray to apply the scriptures. 10. Adoration is lifelong consecration. Rom.12:1.The divine service is to glorify God and the humble man. 11. There are many cases in our lives where we have worshipped and thanked God, e.g. for a woman, at home, children, health, church, good books. Genesis 24:26 and Acts 15:16 are good examples of spontaneous praise and worship. Our thanks should be eternal. 13. What should motivate our worship is the Spirit, but also God's greatness, our salvation on the cross, and all that God has done and given us. CPRC MEN'S BS Chapter 10 INTEGRITY Read Eph.4:15-32 1. We have listed some recent public examples of lies and stealing in society and acknowledged that this is the elaboration of the total depravity of man.Rome.3:14,13, Psalm 116:11, and the fact that their father is the arch-trief and liar Satan. We have also shared some of our past sins in these areas. 2. Integrity is wholeness and wholeness, honesty in all speeches and dealings. Psalm 15 and 51:6. It is about language, work, obeying the law, living according to biblical beliefs, at all costs, to keep promises. Prov.15:4, 20:6,7. In Scripture we have numerous examples, e.g. Paul (Acts 24:16, 2 Tim.3:10), David, Job (2:32:7-5), Joseph. 3. God wants truth and integrity in His people because it reflects His character. John 14:6, Prov.12:22,20:7,10 Ps.78:72. The Church cannot prosper when it is lacking, and it is also a good testimony. Perhaps we must pray for distinction if we suspect that we are being lied to or ripped off. Violations of the law are so widespread, especially among people, because they are selfish, materialistic, often have no social conscience, no fear of God and are influenced by the media. If they do decent things, it's because it benefits them. Types of lies: intentional (to save face) e.g. Peter, half-truth, lies for protection (Rahab), exaggeration, omission (silence). 4. Hughes notes that: declining morality threatens the survival of life as we know it. He is right, because the collapse of the world will have dire consequences. Nazism, communism, Islam and terrorism, evolutionism, abortion, euthanasia and homosexuality have dire consequences for society. The corruption of those in power affects those who govern them. 5. Church visitors 'church visitors' seem to be indifferent to society in general, for a large majority are hypocrites, they do not benefit from true proclamation of the Gospel or biblical doctrine, which alone brings true conversion and divinity. 6. Examples of those judged by God for lying are Satan, Ananias/Sapphira, and Gehazi (Elisa's Servant). 7. Biblical examples of integrity (see 2 above) 8. Benefits of Integrity Honor,(1 Samuel 2:30),clear conscience, divine character, good testimony, intimacy with God. Fidelity in small things will lead to more responsibility (Luke 16:10,11,19,17). Couples who were judged faithful and entrusted with great responsibility were Zacharias/Elizabeth and Mary/Joseph. 9. The greatest advantage of integrity for me personally is the maintenance of communion with God. DISCIPLINES Chapter 10 Integrity 1.Corruption, lies and theft are endemic to our society. In politics, workplace, homeland and churches. Can you give some examples and also scriptures to take this into account? How about examples in your own life? 2.What is integrity? What is this all about? Can you find scriptures that praise them and give examples to those who exhibited them? 3.Why does God want truth and integrity in His people? Do we have to pray for the distinction in dealing with people? Why is breaking the law so widespread, especially among men? 4.Is Hughes right when he says that declining moral ethics threatens the survival of life as we know it? Think back to the original lie and the ultimate liar. 5. Why is the ethics of churchgoers not different from society in general? 6.Give some examples of those judged by God to lie? 7.Give some biblical examples of men of integrity. 8.What are the benefits of integrity according to Hughes? Acts 24:10, Ps.51:6. Luke 19:17 9. What are the benefits of you? CPRC MEN'S BS DISCIPLINES CHAPTER 11 THE TONGUE (D.V. Saturday, January 5 in the Church) Read From James 3 1.Apart from the fabricated lie that Hughes mentioned, which he says caused the Boxer Rebellion in China, think of other words that have devastated nations and the world. Think of spoken and written words. 2. What are some evil uses of the tongue and where in the scriptures are they mentioned? 3. What positive effects can the tongue (words) have? 4. Do you think of words that have helped or harmed you in the past? 5. Do you describe how even prayers can be sinful? 6. What are the four images of the tongue in James 3? Who speaks to you the most? 7. To study something else, you can look up LIPS, MOUTH or TONGUE in a concordance. DISCIPLINES 11 The tongue answers reading James 3 1. Many speeches and books have world of immeasurable misery or blessing. Misery-Hitler's Speeches and Mein Kampf, Mao's Little Red Book, Darwin's Origin of Species. Blessing-The Scriptures, Luther's 95 Theses, Calvin's Institute. Death and life are in the power of the tongue Prov. 18:21. 2.Wicked uses of the tongue. Note that the tongue is expressive/spiritual and a test of our 3:2.1 Peter 3:10.Prov.10.19. Backbiting-to speak badly of someone in their absence. Rome.1:30 Blasphemy-to speak contemptuously of God or holy things, esp against the Spirit Matt.12:31.Mat 3:29.2 Tim.3:2. With a lot of play. Prov.27:1.James 4:13-15, 1 Cor.4:7.d) Daniel 7:10 and Jer.9:23,24 and all false religions of merit Eph.2:8,9. Degrading humor-Eph.5:4 Flattering praise given to take advantage of the benefits. Prov.28:29,5.Psalm 59:12,3.4.James 5:12.Rome.3:13,14 Gossip-malicious or scandalous stories. Prov.16:28,18:8,17:9,26:20 Good intention (sinful) Rome 14:10 and James 4:11.Matthew 7:7. Lies-Col.3:9, marbles and laments (e.g. weater) -Jew 16. Israelites in the desert. No-Prev.27:15 Revenge-Rom.12:19. Defamation-false malicious report. Prov.10:18.1 Tim.3:1. Sowing Dispute-1 Tim.6:4.James 3:14. 6:19 Swearing/Swearing Rome.3:14.Mat.5:34. James 5:12 2. Good Use of the Tongue Comfort Rome.15:3,4.1 Cor.1:4,1 Thess.2:11:5:11 Confession 1 John 1:9 Forgiveness Prov.17:9,Matthew.6:12. Gospel /Teaching Truth/Wisdom Rome 10: 9:14,15 Acts 18:26 Prov.10:21.2 Tim.2:22.Psalm 37:30. (rightly)-sin/false doctrine. James 5:19,20. Matt.18:15. Know Job 33:3 Love/Intercept Show Phil 2:3,4. Silent Acts 8:32 Prov.13:3. Truth Eph 4:15. WORSHIP/PRAISE Heb.13:15. Psalm 63:3. 3. Prayer can also be sinful. Gospel 18:11 if it is self-righteous or draws attention to ourselves-to the praise of men. 4. The four images to describe the tongue. Fire that warms or burns. A rudder or bit that controls a ship or horse. A spring that pours fresh or salty water. A tree that produces various fruits. It has been mentioned that God has all the words we say. 16:1. DISCIPLINES Chapter 12 Working Discipline Sat 26 January 2013 1. What is the attitude of most people to their work? 2. What two sins in relation to work do Hughes and Scripture warn us of? 3. What biblical principles and verses prove that work has dignity and value? 4. How is the course of work experienced today? 5. Does our work matter? 6. How and why? 7. What should the Christian's attitude to work be? 8. What about retirement? 9. Are there one or two work colleagues or ex-colleagues for which we could pray? Chapter 12 Discipline of Work — answers readings Psalm 104:23,24 and Colossians 3:22-25 1. Most infidels see work as something they have to endure, as a means of subsistence, but by doing the minimum, paying attention to the clock, getting their money and running! 2. Both laziness (see proverbs 6:6,13,4,24 and 22:29) and overload are sins. By overload, we mean to do so many hours, or with the desire to be rich or to achieve a higher status that we may do to God, our Church, or to the family, and therefore focus on ourselves and not on God's glory. This is exemplified by the rich farmer who died suddenly while laying goods. By contrast, if we are rich to God, He can entrust us with wealth and the early Church, which all who were well-known liberally shared. 3. Work has dignity and value - it was given to Adam before the fall, commanded by Moses (Exod.20). We all have a calling (1 Corinthians 7:20:21). God works constantly (without raising a finger and never gets tired) Christ has worked. We work as stewards of God on this earth and take care of things or people. We serve Christ. (Col.3:23, Ecclesiastes:9:10, 1 Cor.10:31) 4.The curse is felt in work in the fact that everything is falling apart, work is tiring, sinful people give us trouble and their lack of diligence leads to things going wrong, harm and more work for others, they can be corrupt, they cannot accept our good advice and overwhelm. Much is pointless and leaves no legacy or legacy. 5. Our work has a purpose in serving God and meeting the needs of our fellow human beings in society, the family, and the Church. We are witnesses at work. Paul worked to support his ministry. Bezaleel and Aholiab by the Spirit, did beautiful work in the service of God making the tabernacles (which would eventually disintegrate). 6. We build: a)the life of our children b) the life of the fellow saints. We build stronger bonds (bands in the body) by nurturing, sharing, praying and building them. (Eph.4:12,28). We can be used to add the Church. 7. Our attitude should be: a) we should work (2 Thess. 3:10) b) it is a God-given call (as well as a call to teaching) c) Work of the heart (1 Cor.15:10) d) do it at a high level (Christ has done all well), Mark 7(37) e) It is a sphere of testimony. 8. In retirement we are still working - we can study, pray, serve voluntarily in society and church. 9. At work we should pray for our colleagues, and if God opens up opportunities and hearts, they will show interest. CPRC Mens' Bible Study Chapter 13 Discipline of Perseverance 1. What does the biblical meaning mean of the persistence of the saints? See canons of There Head 5. 2. Which churches deny this truth? 3. Write down some Bible verses that encourage you to persevere? 4. What shall we inspire from Hebrews 12:1,2 to persevere? 5. In the necessary steps to insist, what do we have to sell ourselves? 6. What can we learn from physical running races that apply to Christian life? 7. Why do we need to focus on Christ and keep an eye on Him? 8. What enabled him to persevere? 9. What can we not do? Answers to CPRC Mens' Bible Study 'Perseverance' First Supplement to Last Week. God delegates work - the work of being the steward of his earth, e.g. agriculture. The work of the ruling e.g government, the law. Pastoral work among shepherds in the Church. Education. Reading Colossians 2:1-7. 1. Perseverance is our preservation in faith, so we may endure until we reach glory. So well described in detail in Canons of Head 5 esp art.8. 2. Many churches deny this truth, e.g. all volunteers and Arminians, Wesleyans, Methodists and many Pentecostal. 3. Scriptures that encourage us: God's work Our responsibility 'continues' Psalm 136 John 8:31, Phil.1:6 2 Tim.3:14 Eph.1:14,2:10 Acts 13:43,14:22 Romans 8:28-39 1 Cor.15:58 John 10:28,29 Col.1:23,4:2,4. Hebrews 12:1,2 12.1,2 we, in whom Christ has gone before and we are in Him, will follow, we cannot fail! All the other Saints have made it! Christ finished and Paul (2 Tim.4:7) 5. To persevere, we must separate ourselves from sin (e.g. sins) by accusing them and also of weights that are wrong priorities in our lives, to which we give excessive time or effort, or who enslave us or take God's place. 6. Paul teaches us that running in the Christian race is a marathon that requires perseverance. We MUST win the prize. Each has a different individual race (there are many different types of marathon), runs at different speeds and has different skills and possibilities for service. There has to be effort and there is always some pain, but the goal is worth looking forward to! 7. We must focus on Christ, for He is the precursor, the goal, our example, and our guarantee. He resisted blood. (Rom.8:17). His attitude was to glorify God and rely on God. We are His servants who must constantly look to Him to gain guidance (Psalm 123:2,25:4), pray for His help (John 15:5) 8. He insisted on his constant dependence on prayer, on the word, and on the commandment of his Father (John 10:18:14:31 Psalm 40), on the Spirit, which is merciful and comforting. His focus on the joy, glory, heritage that awaited him- His marriage to his bride, for which he died. 9. We must not compare ourselves to others, as Peter did (with John 21:21), take our eyes from Christ (as he did at sea), fear men (as he did), be ashamed of the cross (as he was). I Cor. 4:7,II Cor 10:12.Phil.2:3,4) and positively we must value others better and take their interests into account. CPRC Men's Bible Study 'Discipline of the Church' Chap 14 S on March 9, p.m. 1.Why don't so many believers join a good church? 2.Why is this wrong? 3.God is our Father and the Church is our Mother' (Cyprian) - do you agree? 4. Why is a churchless Christian atrophied and incomplete? 5.'Outside the Church there is no salvation' (Luther) discussion. 6.Give some reasons from Hebrews 10:24,25 and 12:22-24 why it is important to be a member of a true Church. 7.Why is commitment to the institution of marriage and the Church crucial? 8. The Church must be at the center of her life - do you agree? 9.Why disciplines, according to Kent Hughes, are involved in Church membership? 10.How regular participation and participation in ecclesial life strengthens your relationship with God and others. 11. What are the strengths and weaknesses of our Church? CPRC Men's BS Discipline of the Church Ch14.(ANSWERS) 1. Many believers do not join real churches because: a) there are no near them and they either cannot or do not want to move. (b) they prefer their independence and are unaware of the mandate. (c) they hold a false loyalty to a false church. d) their lives by sin e) they are ignorant of the signs of a true Church. 2. The refusal to become a member of a true Church is sinful because: a) it runs counter to the apostolic doctrine b) Supervision (obeythose who rule over you), care, community, and will likely slip back or get cold. (c) they lack the sermons and sacraments offered. ('listen to Him', 'bask', 'eat') and are the most important means of grace. (d) they do not obey the fourth commandment concerning worship and the Sabbath. 3. The Church is our 'mother' and we all need a mother. a) in most cases, a church was the instrument of our rebirth Ps.87:5 We are adopted children, called from the world and into the Church. b) we need breast milk 1 Peter 2:2 c) we need the mother's love, care, and admonition. 4. A churchless (or house group) Christian is atrophied and incomplete because: a) redemption (ongoing) depends on true preaching, sacraments, communion, body life*, use of gifts and supervision. Eph.4. 1 Cor.12. The image of temple and body requires the connection of parts. b)The life of the Covenant begins with commitment and public confession (or infant baptism) c)The assurance is lacking. 5.We believe that you can be a Christian outside of a true Church, but you can be a disobedient one, and the healing process depends on membership. Many who leave true churches or never join a true church are not true believers. 1 John 2:19. 6. The verses in Hebrews show reasons why it is important to be a member: a) mutual exhortation to love and good works b)Confidence grows when we meet and have a taste of glory (Jerusalem above), where we are triumphantly united with the Church, are with angels, and God is present in Christ. c) we obey the ministries among ourselves and have assurances through the sacraments (blood of sprinkling). 7. Commitment is crucial because in both cases we make public promises for life (marriage and church membership). Christ is our example. He closes unconditionally and eternally with his people. We are engaged (almost married in Jewish understanding) with him now and the full unfoldment takes place at the wedding feast of the Lamb. 8. The Church must be the center of our lives, for Christ is at the center. Col 1:28. 9. The discipline of church membership are: membership, regular participation, giving, participation, love and prayers. God's love is experienced in Church 1 John 4:12. James 5:16. 10. Regular participation and participation strengthens the spiritual life in so far as: a) we are exposed to the means of grace and learn and apply the biblical truth. Heb. 11:6. b) we build relationships. c) we are obedient. Body life: "Here are most of the 'another' sermons in NT. LOVE John 13:34, PREFER Rome.12:10, EDIFY Rome.14:19,ADMONISH Rome.15:14,GREET Rome.16:16,CARE 1 Cor.12:25,SERVE Gal.5:13,FORBEAR Eph.4:2, BE KIND,FORGIVE Eph.4:32,COMFORT 1 Thess.4:18, EXHORT PRAY FOR James 5:16, BE HOSPITABLE I Peter 4:9, BE SUBJECT I Peter 5:5. SHARE Acts 2:45. CPRC Men's BS Discipline of Leadership Ch 15 March 30th 2013 (DV) 1.What seven qualities of Joshua made him an excellent leader? 2. Do you name at least five men who have been given a vision of God's glory? 3. Why do leaders need men of prayer and 4. What other characteristics does Hughes mention towards the end of the chapter? 5. Do you envy a leader? 6. In what areas does God want you to express more faith? 7. What leadership qualities of Stephen are mentioned in Acts 6:3-7. 8. Why is dispensability important for executives? 9. Why is there a lack of male leadership in the Church today? 10. We are all prophets, priests, and kings. Kings (i.e. leaders) in what respect? CPRC Men's BS Chapter 15 Discipline of Leadership (Answers) Read Exodus 33.1.Joshua was a leader of high calibre. It is remarkable that we never hear him being charged with a serious sin or culpability. His name means Jehovah's salvation like Jesus. He was a kind of Christ who led his people into the Promised Land. The themes of his book are: God is faithful to His covenant (Deut 7:8) and God gives rest to His people. His attributes include: Personal devotion/prayer and adoration Ex.33:11, Numb.32:12. He was about 30 years old when Exodus 33 appeared. This led to power with God, for example, "Sun stand still". A vision of the Lord Joshua 5:14 (the centurion) and in Sinai with Moses servanthip/generosity (Servant Moses) Josh.11:15 ff II Tim:2:22 Faith Heb11. Numb.14:6-9 Spirit Deut 34:9 Ordination Numb 27:18. Deut.31:7,8. Courage Josh.10:25 Commitment Josh.24:15 Taught the people Josh.8:35. A leader also makes his way through the teaching of his vision (friendship), delegation (orchestration and training), demonstration (example) and determination. Moses and Christ did so. God prepares and gives them gifts. 2. Others to whom the vision of God was given were Moses, Isaiah, Paul, James, and John. This is important because it motivates and encourages. (Daniel 11:32). Our equivalent is the knowledge of Him in Scripture II Cor.3:18. 3.Leaders must be men of prayer and personal devotion, because they show their total dependence on God, without whom we can do nothing (John 15:5) and are unadecurable. The flesh is of no use, e.g. Moses' first attempts at liberation. 4. (see 1 above) 5.No.6 7. Others exhort, testify, fear of death and lack of security. 7.Stephen (Acts 6:3,5) was a man full of the Holy Spirit, faith, and wisdom. Cf. David in 1 Samuel 18 of Saul (Psalm 139:98) 8. The expediency is crucial because each leader must relinquish his role and train others (II Timothy 2:2). 9. False doctrine (higher criticism), compromise with the world and feminism and apostasy of support in churches. 10.We are all leaders in our own sphere (office of the believer) prophets to teach and exhort each other AND to bear witness. Priests to pray for others. Kings to govern ourselves, family (if ordained—church) CPRC men Bible study disciplines Chapter 16 Give scheduled for Saturday 11. 8 p.m. 1.What are the dangers of longing for wealth? Why is that? 2. Is wealth itself a sin? What frees us from materialism? 2.What are the biblical principles of giving? 3.How does the Bible (and Hughes) describe giving? 4.What were some of the Will rules for giving? (Numbers 18:21ff. Deut 12:10-18,14:28.) Who were the recipients? What warning has God given? (Malachi 3:8) 5.What do you think of the words: God is the debtor of man. You cannot outbid God. The work of God, done in God's way, will never lack God's resources. 6.How do we measure the grace of giving? How do we give a good spiritual barometer? 7.Which sacrifice is behind all the gifts? 8.To whom should we give? CPRC MEN'S BS Chapter 16 Discipline of Reading: 1 Chronicle29:1-14 and reaffirm the willingness and joy of men and the recognition that God possesses everything. 1. Wanting wealth and having great wealth is dangerous because it can be or may become an idol that prevents a man from coming to Christ, and something that people seek as their priority for the loss of their soul. The foolish rich peasant in Luke 12:16-21 is our example and behold Matt.6:24, Luke 8:14 (where sorrow and materialism suffocate any real interest in the gospel) and I Timothy 6:9,10-the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil e.g. stealing and murder (Ahab/Naboth). This is because Satan uses money and materialism to deceive people - it promises a lot, but does not deliver more and more and is NEVER satisfied. It is difficult for a rich man to enter the kingdom. Matt.19:21-26 but they do and can. Wealth in itself is not a sinful witness of Abraham, Job, Solomon, and Barnabas. Our attitude to wealth is far from important - we must consider it God

pray and seek witnesses. 5. We believe that it is important to cultivate relationships and invest in them because we need to build people's trust, arouse interest, and expect the opportunity to preach the gospel. We do this by showing interest, care and care for them, offering hospitality and help, sometimes asking them for favors and praying for them. All this despite the antithesis of Psalm 1. We remember that Christ was called a friend of sinners, and I believe that everything he befriended actually saved. We do not know who the elect are, but we emulate him. 6. We have practiced sharing a short testimony (one minute or so) if we are ever asked how we came to Christ – a worthwhile project! 7. We looked at the 'Bridge Illustration', a simple cross-centered gospel message illustrated for which WE NEED TO KNOW SOME BASIC BIBLE REFERENCES! You could start writing them down on cards and carrying them around. (this is in video form on my website under). Draw two sides of a cliff and label one man and the other God. The bottomless, inaccessible gap between the two is caused by SIN (Isaiah 69:1,2). On the side of man, fill in biblical truths as shown and equal on God's side. Then you talk a little about man's futile efforts to bridge the complete works, religion, etc. Then draw God's ordinance into the cross of Christ and share I Peter 3:18. Finally, to cross the bridge, we must repent and believe in the gospel. (see above or in the Videos section) Mark 1:15 You will be my witnesses Isaiah 43:10. (Notes of the BRF Conference 2012) Full speeches on the BRF website Summaries 1)Hanko-Zech.4:6. Not by power, not by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord. The constant supply of oil is the Church, which is safely gathered by the Holy Spirit, who makes the building blocks, shapes them and adds them to the temple when they die. The Office of and Cerubbabel, priest and man of royal lineage, was united only once in the person of Melchizedek, a kind of Christ who is the outpouring of this oil (at his ascension). But what is our part? 2)Engelsma-The Martyr's Church. Acts 7:8:4. Stephen dies shamefully, but gloriously for his Lord. His testimony was the highest Sekranik, in which he willingly laid down his life for the Lord. He sees Christ in Sublime assurance that His Lord was risen and risen and he went there! The content of his testimony - the reverent dominion of Christ over the world (son of man in Daniel), about death (receive my spirit), over the judgment of all men (does not this sin of their charge). Our lives must show his dominion - in our way, including our revelation of mistakes that deny his rule. 3)Hanko-Isaiah 43:9,10. Our call to witness. We are made this way through Scripture. The denial of the inspiration of any of this is fatal. We testify of what we know - Christ and our living communion with Him through faith. We are the light of the world. 4)Engelsma-The content of our testimony. There is only really ONE FAITHFUL WITNESS to the Truth Christ. God determines the content of the testimony personally and the ecclesial reasons -1) So he can bless.2)Because of the danger of untruth.3)Our sinfulness. Purpose bring people into true churches, expose and harden rebellious sinners. Lots of false testimony - of false churches, cults, other religions. It can be any part of the scriptures. 1) God and His glory (the only God) 2) Jesus Christ the Lord-healing/repentance. (also OT-Creation/Adam) 3) Our Hope and Joy- I Peter 3:15. We look forward to the great good-in-life, to death, to the resurrection in comparison to incredulity, death, hell. Part of our testimony is to expose all false witnesses. 5. Hanko Official Witness of the Church Because the Church is his body! Every local church is also his body. Christ is there through ministers, the signs of the true Church and its biblical constitution. Their most important testimony is preaching in the established Church and in the missionary community. The difference between one is to his covenant people (His bride) in love, the other is a formal earnest call to repentance and faith. All classes of young and old teach us the content of our testimony. The sermon is the power to make us witnesses. The goal of the individual believer is to get people to hear the sermon. All devotions (personal and family), catechism courses and Bible studies and personal testimony complete the sermon. 6.McGeown Mission Message and Methods The great mission was given to the Apostles and their followers (who are baptised) who officially preach. The missionaries are ordained and sent only by the Ecclesiastical Institute. They went first to the Jews. Macedonian call (group of interested parties). The missionary is called to preach, nothing else. Missionary work is preaching. The apostolic open-air work took place in recognized places or where crowds had already gathered. 7.Engelsma- Personal Witness I Peter 3:15. Every responsible member. a) For the prayer and support of the service his message. b) Also as individuals. I Thesis.1:8. We echo the preaching witnesses. We testify in the Church comfort, instruct, exhort each other. Col.3:5,6 and 16. In our families. Schools. Andrew with Peter 'I have found the Messiah', come and hear him (in the church). We share the anoint of Christ to bear witness. H.C. LD 12. Calvin- Calvin- there is opportunity, and God gives opportunity. Whole Council (incl. rebuttal error). In our normal life. Fear will be lost (Revelation 21:8). Tolerance is not a Christian virtue. Courage asked. Suffering glorifies God and makes us happy! Samaritan woman witness effective. Also Gadarene demons. 8.Hanko witness of a God-fearing life. As pilgrims who come through, we are alien to the world. Being different and attractive should make people ask questions. It is important to be a member of the Church, to have the Church central, and to hold a great deal of respect for the sermon. To be an exemplary citizen until that means not obeying Christ. To be a good worker, husband or wife. To be constantly on the cross. 9.Engelsma-The way of our testimony 'With meekness and fear'. May include a harsh condemnation (polemic) of the that distorts and eliminates the message, or godless ways of life. That doesn't mean we never offend. e.g. Amos 4:1.5:21.Gal.1:8. Hypocrites. Love for God trumps love for the wrong teachers. Our confessions, that is, our witness, are a condemnation of all wheezing. We fight for faith. Tolerance ruins souls. Testify of the grace of God and in reverence for Him. The goal is not to win the argument, but the person. CPRC MEN'S BIBLE STUDY DISCIPLINE OF MINISTRY (Chapter 18) DV 1. What is Ministry? 2. Do you describe the petty person? 3. Do you describe the generous person? 4. Why does Hughes bring discipline into the expression of discipline of service? 5. What office does he speak of? Think of Church and outside. 6. On the basis of the biblical truths, do we establish this ministry? (See Psalm 37:23) 7. What do we learn from I Thess.2:8,9 and II Cor.11:27,28? 8. What hinders effective Christian service? Think of attitudes and prejudices. 9. How do we see divine dates? Is there a long-term perspective? 10. How much does it cost us? 11. Any additional service that God may call you to rehabilitate? What preparation is required? Disciplines Chapter 18 Ministry Read Philipians 2:1-9. 1.The Ministry serves others in the Church and outside (Gal.6:9,10). The Ministry includes spiritual activities and practical work (I Cor.12,Eph.4) and may include teaching/preaching, guidance/elders, deacon's work/giving, hospitality, gardening, cleaning, conviviality, welcome, babysitting, encouraging. 2. A small-hearted person is isolated, avoids relationships, does not help or volunteer, or goes out of the way for someone else to talk to someone else or to a visitor, they are selfish and limit their prayer to family and close friends. 3.A generous person is loving. He or she greets others and visitors, shows concern for others, is willing to serve in the church in any way, when she is asked, opens up to others and for a wide circle and into the world (cf. Paul in Romans 16). 4.Ministry needs discipline because of course we are lazy and more egocentric. We must exercise ourselves in all areas of life; be it personal physical activity and cleanliness or in the service of others. Christ is our example in 13 And he denied himself, and washed the feet of the disciples. 5.Hughes is primarily concerned with reaching out to others who are lost, but also within the Church. He asks us to reach barriers as equal sinners for sinners and to regard human and everything as God-given. He uses the example of Paul, who was a very hard worker, both with his hands and with the scriptures (I Cor. 15:10, I Thesis 2:8,9). Practical ministries such as letters, emails, phone calls and Facebook posts can count. 6. Biblical ministry is based on: a) Love for God and our fellow men (1 John 3:18). b)the example of Christ in determining his life. c)Our gifts and life in the body. 7.We learn from Paul (1 Cor 11:27,28 and I Thess.2:8,9) that Paul was willing to suffer for Christ, and others - he cared for the churches, he had no desire for personal gain, he gave himself free in his teaching, and he worked all the hours! 8.Attitudes that hinder service are pride (want to judge supremacy e.g. Simon the Wizard and Diotrefes), selfishness, laziness, apathy, pleasure-seeking and even racism or people to judge by their appearance (tattoos!). When we talk to people who are against healthy teaching, we must be sensitive and gentle. 9.We must try to know where longer-term relationships lead and bring them to reflection and prayer in order to win this person over to Christ. 10.Ministry costs us time (for the person, for prayer) and money (give). We must overcome the fear of rejection and we can lose friends. 11.Regarding the ministry in the Church, we said that it would be worthwhile to review all the other sentences in the NT. Here are all positive ones: 'Love,dear,teaching,admonis, samonien, salut, care, serve, forgive, forgive, comfort, exhort, exhort, exhort, exhort, and provoke good works, pray, have compassion, be subject.' DISCIPLINES OF A GODLY MAN Overview/Summary1. Why does Paul emphasize discipline in I Timothy 4:7 and what is the general message of Hughes's book in which he speaks of spiritual sweat? 2.What is the difference between the discipline of a (godless) Olympic athlete and that of the believer? 3. What do we essentially need from God in Christian life? (James 4:6) 4.What do discipline and grace have to do with each other? Define each term carefully. What is the meaning of everyone? What aspect of God's character encourages you to persevere? 5.Name a few basic disciplines that are the means of grace and underlie divine discipleship? 6.In which areas of life are believers particularly attacked today? 7. Do you currently see a meaning in your life and work? 8. Is the Church central to your life? 9.Are you satisfied with your management of gifts and resources? 10.Could you change the names of one or more To those they want to pray for the rest of the group? 11.Do that you believe you have enough opportunities to reach out to unbelievers, and how can they be improved? 12.Are there areas in your life that need more discipline? 13. Do you want to share one or two things that was a help or a blessing from these studies? Let me know all the questions that should be raised on the 22nd. Know.

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