

6. Be Humble (Jam 4:6-10)

7. Be Encouraging (Acts 15:32)

8. Be Available (Gal 6:10)

9. Be Word-centered (Heb 4:12-13)

In Conclusion

- Good biblical accountability involves asking good questions, not being sacred of confrontation, being honest; available; vulnerable; humbling; gracious; and Word-centered.
- Christians must avoid nominal, anonymous Christianity. Biblical accountability is an important (albeit necessary?) part of spiritual growth.

Next Week: The Hazards & Joys of Discipling.

Core Seminars—Discipling

Class 11: Biblical Accountability



Introduction

You are in a war for life and death. The battle cannot be won by fighting by yourself. You need help from other believers. This is God's design for your life—to fight side-by-side with others who are struggling to put off sin and look more like Christ.

To that end, we want to spend today thinking about biblical accountability and what it looks like in the life of believers.

Christians Should Pursue Accountability

We start with three biblical reasons why we want pursue accountability.

1. Scripture Encourages Confession

“Against you and you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight” (Psalm 51:4).

“Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed” (James 5:16).

“He who conceals his sin does not prosper, but whoever confesses and renounces them finds mercy” (Prov 28:13).

2. Scripture Warns Us About Self-Deceit

“See to it brothers, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God. But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called Today, so that none of you may be hardened by sin’s deceitfulness” (Heb 3:12-13).

3. Scripture Encourages Honesty about Weakness

“Since many are boasting in the way the world, I too will boast...If I must boast, I will boast of the things that *show my weakness*” (2 Cor 11:18, 30).

“My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness” (2 Cor 12:7).

“For when I am weak, then I am strong”(2 Cor 12:10).

The Need for Accountability

Guidelines for Accountability Relationships

1. Ask good questions (Prov 20:5).
2. Don’t be scared to confront (Prov 24:5-6)

Proverbs 24:5-6 says, “Do not answer a fool according to his folly, or you will be like him yourself. Answer a fool according to his folly, or he will be wise in his own eyes.”

3. Be honest (Prov 24:26)
4. Be vulnerable (2 Cor 6:11-13)
5. Be gracious (Col 4:6; Prov 15:1).