

REDEEMING DISCIPLINE

What is it like as a Christian to have redeeming discipline? To live with Christian discipline is to be proactive, follow a grace-based lifestyle aimed at spiritual maturity and aligning one's life with God's character, rather than simple earthly rule-following. Christian discipline involves cultivating daily habits like prayer, weekly habits like Bible study and worship service, to foster a deep, lasting faith in Christ. As of such, Christian discipline often requires a structured format, making intentional choices over self-indulgence.

Key Aspects of a Disciplined Christian Life consists of the following:

- **Purposeful Habits:** Spiritual disciplines include prayer, Bible study, meditation, fasting, confession, worship, and service. These are not for earning salvation, but for aligning oneself with God's grace.
- **Structure and Routine:** Building a disciplined life involves intentional scheduling, such as setting aside time for prayer, reading the Bible, and even times of rest.
- **Decisive Moments:** Choosing discipline over self-indulgence in small daily decisions makes it easier to handle larger life choices and struggles.
- **Providing Service:** Following Jesus's example of service as portrayed in the Bible.
- **Order and Freedom:** Biblical discipline creates order in life, protecting against spiritual, emotional, and physical neglect through hard times and suffering.

Many of Paul's letters make mention of Christian discipline and point to examples for us to learn from. Here are some of the most notable versus from scripture:

Colossians 1:29 – which speaks of strenuously teaching others about the Gospel.

Romans 15:30 – shows striving in prayer for God's blessing and safety from evils.

1 Corinthians 9:12 – stresses the act of enduring through things that hinder us from our relationship with God.

Philippians 3:7-10 – talks about perseverance of keeping faith through all the trials and tribulations of life on earth.

So, remember through Jesus Christ, we must work towards Christian discipline to drive us forward with a purpose. We must remember that God works in us for his good pleasure. By having Christian discipline, we throw off every hinderance and evil that slows our pace towards salvations and the path to Heaven.

Amen.