



DOCTRINE

The Gospel is the “*good news*” of God’s Grace invading the darkness of this world. It is the grand narrative of creation, fall, redemption and consummation ordained by God and orchestrated through the life, death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus Christ. Christ’s crucifixion is the heart of the Gospel. His resurrection is the power of the Gospel of His Grace. His ascension is the glory of the Gospel.

Christ’s death is a substitutionary and propitiatory sacrifice to God for our sins. It satisfies the demands of God’s justice and appeases His wrath. It also demonstrates His mysterious love and reveals His amazing Grace. Jesus Christ is the only mediator between God and man. There is no other name by which men can be saved. At the heart of all sound doctrine is the cross of Jesus Christ and the infinite privilege that redeemed sinners have in glorifying God, because of what He has accomplished. Therefore, we want all that takes place in our hearts, churches and ministries to proceed from and be related to the Gospel of Grace.

DISCIPLINE

The Pioneer Network believes that the best way to deal with sin and love the sinner is through the means revealed in Scripture. Our desire to obey the Lord thus necessitates that we follow His Word.

Therefore, discipline in the life of The Pioneer Network will follow the steps outlined in this document. Except in rather extreme and extenuating circumstances, the process should be followed with faithfulness and expectation of God’s Spirit to work through His intended means.

Members of the church are expected to follow the biblical process of discipline as outlined in Matthew 18:15-20. Therefore, the first step in instances of overt sin should be a private meeting to express concerns and correct any misunderstandings. We expect grace, strength, courage

the need for confidentiality. A general principle of the discipline process is the need to “keep the circle of people involved in a conflict as small as possible for as long as possible.”

In the event that the sinning brother is unrepentant, members are encouraged to ask a witness to accompany him or her for another meeting. If this too fails, the member is then asked to contact a pastor of The Pioneer Network for further instructions on the church’s response. Functionally, the next steps of the process will be carried out in the presence of two or more recognized pastors, at least one of whom being an elder.

While we never hope to need to arrive at these final steps, we fully believe that engaging in such is the best way to love a wayward brother or sister. Therefore, we will unapologetically obey the Scriptures as they apply in such instances. While such action may press against our ideas of love and compassion, we trust that God will ultimately show Himself faithful and that He rewards those who seek Him.