Oaks-West church of Christ

Sunday Worship Service: 11:00 a.m. • Bible Study: 10:00 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study: 7:00 p.m.
Services are live-streamed to our website: oakswestchurchofchrist.com

December 7, 2025

Loving Discipline and Knowledge

By Darrell Trammel

Whoever loves discipline loves knowledge, but he who hates reproof is stupid. (Proverbs 12:1)

Sometimes you come across a verse in scripture that is very plain and bold. I think this is one of them. It demonstrates a connection between discipline and knowledge (and wisdom). It also shows that if you don't embrace that connection, you are being foolish. Implied within this verse is also the need for humility and teachability, without which we cannot be disciplined in a way that benefits us. I am reminded of the beginning of Proverbs in 1:7, *The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction.* We need knowledge and wisdom and yes, discipline in order to be in fellowship with God.

First, the follower of God must recognize that to grow in wisdom we must accept discipline and knowledge. Take a moment to read what the Hebrew writer states in 12:5-10. He reminds us that discipline is necessary to accomplish growth and righteousness in our lives. God does not discipline us out of animosity but to accomplish good and share in His holiness. Think of those individuals set forth as examples in Hebrews 11 as people of faith. They were willing to listen. They were teachable. A Christian is not infallible, but we do accept the discipline of the Lord so that we can grow and overcome the difficulties and temptations in our lives.

Second, the foolish (this verse says "stupid") reject correction. They either can't see the faults in themselves or refuse to change. They display a prideful attitude that blocks the way to knowledge and growth. This is the exact opposite to the one who would humbly and obediently come to Christ. We must accept the guidance of the Lord, setting aside the idea that we know it all or have it all figured out and listen to our Creator who knows all things. One cannot say they have a good relationship with God while plugging their ears and refusing to listen to Him!

Finally, when one opens themselves up to discipline and knowledge, then growth comes. Without embracing divine correction, we will never see the truth that He is showing us. Spiritual growth is a necessary part of our walk with God. An intimate relationship with Him is one that is

Welcome!

When you visit our assemblies, you will be received friendly, kindly and courteously. We believe this to be the natural attitude of those who truly love God and mankind. Though you may at first be among strangers, we hope that you will come to know us well and count us as your friends. We offer Bible studies as well as correspondence courses for those interested in learning more about what God expects of us.

Important Dates

Our meeting with George Slover has been tentatively rescheduled for January 18-21

Ladies' Class – December 9

(flyers are being sent via email. If you need one and didn't get it let me know)

If you know of upcoming events, please inform Darrell so they can be included here.

open to receiving His wisdom. We cannot be transformed, having our minds renewed (Romans 12:1) while ignoring His guidance.

Let us be humble. Let us listen to the instruction and knowledge of the Lord. He knows that is for our good!

Prayer Requests

Jimmy Stinnett is at home with some days better than others.

Shut-ins: Don and Alene Simmons, Marcia Neuhaus, Dorthy Steadman, Dinah Williams

If you know of someone that needs to be on this list, please tell Darrell (email preferred) and provide updates so names stay on the list as long as needed.

The Oaks West church of Christ is a group of individual Christians who have been added to the Lord's body through baptism (Acts 2:38, 47; Gal 3:26, 27), and have joined themselves together (Acts 2:42ff) in an effort to do the Lord's will.

We are not a part of any larger organization – we do not follow any man-made creeds and we do not answer to anyone other than the Lord.

Our standard of faith and practice is the Word of God. We believe in the God of revelation (Eph 3:1-7; 2 Tim 3:16-17) and follow his instructions in an effort to have an ongoing relationship with him (1 John 4:7-11; 5:3).

Our times of study and worship are open to all, and our members are happy to meet with interested individuals or families for study.

Evangelist

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