

Every church should judge of the qualifications of those who offer themselves for membership, and to admit or reject, as they may think proper. Matt. xvi. 19.

All persons, before admittance to the church, should be examined in respect to their doctrinal views and religious experience. And none should be admitted but such as are found evangelical in both respects.

The duty of church members toward each other is, to watch over one another for good, and, when occasion requires, to reprove, rebuke, and admonish. 1 Tim. v. 20; Gal. vi. 1.

Church members are subject to discipline for immoralities and heresy in doctrine. 1 Cor. v. 11; Titus iii. 10.

Our Saviour has given a particular rule of proceeding in church discipline, which should be strictly observed in all cases. Matt. viii. 15-17.

Offenders in the church, upon suitable confession and reformation, should be restored to the fellowship of the church. 2 Cor. ii. 6-8; Matt. xviii. 21, 22.

Excommunication consists in cutting off a member from all church rights and privileges. This should be viewed as a very solemn act,

Who should judge of qualifications for church membership? Should all candidates be examined before the church? In what? What is the duty of church members toward each other? For what are they subject to discipline? What particular rule has Christ given? Should this be observed? How are offenders to be restored? What is excommunication?