

Accountability

The bible says that we should “Be perfect as our heavenly Father is perfect.” (Matt 5:48)
The bar is set undoubtedly high.....and we only need to look at Romans 3:23 + 1 John 1:8 to see it’s one we have all missed “we have all sinned and fallen short of God’s Glory” “If we claim to be without sin we are deceiving ourselves...”

Sadly many Christians seem to be OK with missing the bar and throw out the “Grace Card”
Don’t hear me wrong, we are saved by Grace, (Eph 2:8-9) we can not earn salvation (Titus 2:11) but being “saved” is only the start and not the end.

We need to train ourselves to be Godly, (1 Tim 4:7) we need to do everything we can to reach that bar and accountability is an important factor in doing so.

So what actually is accountability?

Dictionary definition: 1) the state of being liable to answer for one’s conduct, to receive rewards or punishment for actions—to accept responsibility.

John Maxwell: “Being responsible for who you are.”

The bible shows us that accountability is about...

Accepting responsibility for our sin (not blaming others) (2 Sam 12: 13, Matt 24:7, Romans 14:12)

Confessing our sin to each other / God so we can be healed/forgiven (James 5: 16, 1 John 1:9)

Setting boundaries/people in place to help prevent you from falling again (Gen 4:7, Ecc 4:9)

Encouraging: Spurring each other on to persevere in faith and purity (Heb 10: 24-25, 1 Thes 5:11)

Some areas we are accountable for...

We are accountable for every word we speak.	Matt 12:36
We are accountable for our thoughts.	2 Cor 10:5
We are accountable for what we look at	Matt 5:28;
We are accountable for all of our actions.	I Cor 3:13-15
We are accountable for engaging in sinful activities	I Pet 4:1-5
We are accountable for how we treat others	Matt 23:34-36, Eph 4:3-4
We are accountable for how we forgive others	Matt 6:14-15
We are accountable for the resources God lends to us.	Luke 12:48
We are accountable for the development of our spiritual gifts.	Rom 12:3-8; 14:7-12
We are accountable for the development of our skills	Psa 33:3, Matt 25:14-30
We are accountable for our faithfulness in leadership	I Cor 4:2
We are accountable for our reliance on the Word of God.	Luke 4:4

So lets accept and admit we have done wrong, lets receive forgiveness through the atoning work of Christ on the cross , lets get boundaries and people in place to help us from stumbling and lets peruse encouraging each other to keep our lives fixed on Christ.