

LONG HOLLOW
STUDENTS

ACCOUNTABLE

M.A.R.C.S. OF A DISCIPLE

Accountability is not about control or checking boxes. It is about helping one another follow Jesus more faithfully. While the word “accountability” is not used directly in Scripture, the concept is everywhere. God designed us to grow in relationship with Him and with others who will speak truth into our lives.

At its core, accountability is inviting trusted people to know you, ask real questions, and point you back to Christ. It requires honesty, humility, and trust, but it leads to deeper growth than we can experience alone.

Why Accountability Matters

We are accountable in three key directions:

- Upward to God (Hebrews 9:27)
- Outward to spiritual leaders (Hebrews 13:17)
- Inward to one another (Proverbs 27:17)

God never intended for us to follow Him in isolation. Ecclesiastes 4 reminds us that we are stronger together. Others help lift us when we fall, keep our hearts warm toward God, and protect us from drifting off course.

Accountability does not eliminate sin, but it exposes it, redirects us, and keeps us anchored in the Gospel. Sin thrives in isolation, but it loses power when brought into the light.

What Accountability Looks Like

Healthy accountability is:

- Relational, not transactional. It is built on trust, not performance
- Grace-filled, not legalistic. It is motivated by the Gospel, not guilt
- Honest, not surface-level. It is willing to ask and answer real questions
- Mutual, not one-sided. We give and receive encouragement and correction

The goal is always devotion, not duty. We pursue obedience because of what Christ has done, not to earn His favor.



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For You as a Leader

Before leading students in accountability, live it yourself.

Ask:

- Who has permission to speak honestly into my life?
- Where am I tempted to hide or go it alone?
- Am I regularly confessing sin and asking for prayer?

If you do not currently have this, take a step this month to pursue it. You cannot lead students somewhere you haven't been.

For Your Students

You are not expected to create a full accountability system, but you can model and normalize it.

Create space by:

- Asking real questions, not just content-based ones
- Encouraging honesty without forcing vulnerability
- Responding with grace when students open up
- Redirecting conversations back to Jesus, not behavior alone

Simple ways to start:

- “What’s something you’re struggling with this week?”
- “Where do you need help following Jesus right now?”
- “How can we pray for each other specifically?”

Help students see that following Jesus is not something they do alone. It is something we walk out together.

Take a Step

- Personally: Identify one person you will invite into deeper accountability
- With Students: Ask one intentional, heart-level question this week

Accountability is not about having all the right answers. It is about walking in the light together and helping each other keep our eyes on Christ.