

Discipleship in the Home - Week 8

Discipline as Discipleship

Whoever loves instruction loves knowledge, but he who hates correction is stupid.

Proverbs 12:1

Titus 2:11-13 (NIV)

¹¹For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. ¹²It teaches us to say “No” to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, ¹³while we wait for the blessed hope—the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ...

Rocks and Candy – Learning to say “yes” and “no”

4 Discipline Styles:

1. High love, low discipline – permissive and fearful parent
2. Low love, low discipline – neglectful parent, no relationship
3. Low love, high discipline – authoritarian parent, overly strict and critical
4. High love, high discipline – authoritative, the boss is known but there is relationship

Hebrews 12:4-11 (ESV)

⁴In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. ⁵And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons?

“My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord,
nor be weary when reproved by him.

⁶For the Lord disciplines the one he loves,
and chastises every son whom he receives.”

⁷It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline? ⁸If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. ⁹Besides this, we have had earthly fathers who disciplined us and we respected them. Shall we not much more be subject to the Father of spirits and live? ¹⁰For they disciplined us for a short time as it seemed best to them, but he disciplines us for our good, that we may share his holiness. ¹¹For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

1. The Necessity of discipline – goal to deter destruction vs. 4
2. The Means of discipline – the actions and words, vs. 5
3. The Motive of discipline – to express love, vs. 6-9
4. The Goal of discipline – to teach true obedience, vs. 9
5. The Result of discipline – short-term pain and long-term gain, vs. 10-11

Discipline vs. Punishment

Purpose of punishment: to inflict a penalty for an offense, to focus on past misdeeds.

Punishment – leads to fear and guilt

Purpose of discipline: to train for correction and maturity, to focus on future correct acts

Discipline – leads to security

Discipline is about actions and words.

Actions = are consistent, appropriate consequences

Proverbs 13:24

Whoever spares the rod hates his son, but he who loves him is diligent to discipline him.

What about spanking?

Discussion Questions

- What does an absence of discipline teach our children about God?
- In what ways do you see your own sin influencing how or when you discipline?
- What are some selfish reasons you would be inclined to discipline your child?
- What are some loving reasons that would give you courage to employ discipline more appropriately?

Notes:

Resources:

Shepherding a Child's Heart, by Tedd Tripp

The Gospel-Centered Parent, by Miller, Harrell and Klumpenhower

Correct your son, and he will give you rest; yes, he will give delight to your soul.

Proverbs 29:17