

TRIUMPHANT

Running the Race Set Before Us

Lesson Four • Hebrews 12:4-11

Respect Divine Discipline

There Are Times During the Race...

When we must respect divine DISCIPLINE from our Heavenly Father!

Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as sons. For what son is not disciplined by his father?...Moreover, we have all had human fathers who disciplined us and we respected them for it. How much more should we submit to the Father of our spirits and live! Hebrews 12:7, 9 NIV

Four Questions About Divine Discipline

1. Why Does God Use Hardship as Discipline? To TRAIN Us to Run with Endurance!

Two Concerns When It Comes to Hardship

- EXAGGERATION: Remember life is not as bad as you may think.

And you have not yet resisted to bloodshed, striving against sin. Hebrews 12:4

- EXASPERATION: Don't forget the encouragement of God's Word.

And you have forgotten the exhortation which speaks to you as sons: Hebrews 12:5a

2. Who Does God Discipline? His OWN Children!

When God Disciplines His Children...

- It's a sign of our SONSHIP as His children.

"My son, do not despise the chastening of the Lord, nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him; for whom the Lord loves He chastens, and scourges every son whom He receives." If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what so is there whom a father does not chasten? But if you are without chastening, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate and not sons. Hebrews 12:5-8

- It's a sign of His LOVE for His children.

"For whom the Lord loves He chastens, and scourges every son whom He receives." Hebrews 12:6

3. What Are the Results of God's Discipline?

- God's discipline is for our GOOD: makes us holy like God.

For they indeed chastened us as seemed best to them, but He for our profit, that we may be partakers of His holiness. Hebrews 12:10

- God's discipline is for our GAIN: produces fruit in our lives.

Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but greivous; nevertheless, afterward it yeilds the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it. Hebrews 12:11

4. How Should I Respond to God's Discipline?

- Don't DESPISE it lightly.

"My son, do not despise the chastening of the Lord." Hebrews 12:5a

- Don't LOSE HEART by it.

"Nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him." Hebrews 12:5b

- Do SUBMIT to it willingly.

Moreover, we have all had human fathers who disciplined us and we respected them for it. How much more should we submit to the Father of our spirits and live! Hebrews 12:9