

DISCIPLINE

Heb 12:4-11

INTRODUCTION:

I. WHAT IS DISCIPLINE?

- A. Webster: "1. A branch of knowledge or learning. 2. training that develops self-control, character, or orderliness and efficiency; 3. The result of such training; self-control; orderly conduct. 4. Acceptance of our submission to authority and control. 5. A system of rules or methods, as for the conduct of members of a monastic order. 6. Treatment that corrects or punishes. . . . 1. To subject to discipline; train; control. 2. to punish." Under synonyms Webster suggest that punish carries the idea of retribution and discipline suggest punishment that is meant to control or establish habits of self-control.
- B. The English word is used one time in the King James Version, in Job 36:10, but the idea is found often in the Bible.
1. The Hebrew expression is (Musar from Vasar) which means chastisement or instruction
 - a. It suggest the action of parent to child
Prov 3:11,12; 13:24; 22:15; 23:13,14
 - b. Also suggest the action of God to his people
Job 5:17; Psa 94:12
 2. The Greek equivalent is PAIDEIA which means "1. the whole training and education of children (which relates to the cultivation of mind and morals, and employs for this purpose commands and admonitions, reproof and punishment): 2. whatever in adults also cultivates the soul, esp. by correcting mistakes and curbing the passions; hence (a) instruction which aim at the increase of virtue: 2Tim 3:16. b) according to Biblical usage chastisement, chastening (of the evils with which God visits men for their amendment); Heb 12:5-11" Thayer
- C. Until we understand that discipline is more than just punishment, we will never accomplish much in the process. We must understand that it is also for the purpose of instruction and correction, it comes from the same root in our language as the word "Disciple", and involves the whole of the training and education of a Christian.

DISCUSSION:

I. INSTRUCTIVE SELF DISCIPLINE

- A. Bible study Jhn 17:17; Acts 20:32; Ezra 7:10
- B. Prayer Eph 6:18; Phil 4:6
- C. Growth in grace and knowledge 2Pet 3:18

II. INSTRUCTIVE DISCIPLINE IN THE CHURCH

- A. Teaching Matt 28:20; Acts 2:42; 20:7,20; 2Tim 4:1-4
- B. Exhorting Heb 10:25; 1Thess 5:14
- C. Rebuke is part of exhortation Tit 2:15; Lk 17:3

III. CORRECTIVE DISCIPLINE-PRIVATE OFFENSES

- A. Corrective discipline must follow God's pattern
- B. The Lord's Instructions Matt 18:15-17; 1Cor 5:1-5
- C. Distinction between private and public offences.
 1. "Go and tell him alone"
 2. "If he shall hear thee " - "If he shall not hear thee "
 3. "If he shall neglect to hear them, tell it to church "
 4. "If he neglect to hear the church " now its public

IV. CORRECTIVE DISCIPLINE PUBLIC SIN

- A. Accusation of Sin Deut 17:2-6; 1Tim 5:19
- B. Warn Sinner 1Thess 5:14; Tit 3:10
- C. Effort to Restore Gal 6:1-6; Jude 1:22, 23
- D. How long until withdrawal Matt 7:6; 13:15; Heb. 6:4-6; 1Cor 5:1-5; Eccl 8:11
- E. When & How? 2Thess 3:6; 1Cor 5:4

V. TREATMENT OF THE WITHDRAWN

- A. The whole church must support the action Matt 18:17; 1Cor 5:11-13; 2Thess 3:6; 2Thess 3:14-15
- B. Avoid Them Rom 16:17; 2Thess 3:6
- C. Keep No Company or Eat With Them 2Thess 3:14; 1Cor 5:11
- D. Make Them Ashamed Matt 18:17; 2Thess 3:15
- F. Stand Ready to Restore Them 2Cor 2:6-8

CONCLUSION:

- A. In athletics, discipline is the training that prepares an athlete to become a winner and champion.
- B. In the spiritual realm, discipline is the training and correction that keeps us running the race, fighting the good fight and prepares us to win an imperishable crown of life and a heavenly home.
- C. The Lord instructed us in discipline for our benefit to keep us safe and saved by helping, teaching, exhorting and correcting each other.
- D. We must have the faith and wisdom to obey our Lord and Savior in all things.