

Discipline

Hebrews 12:1-11

Taking it Home:

1. What encumbrances or entangling sins do you need to lay aside? Share this with a friend. What practical steps can you take to follow through?
2. From the demanding coach in a grueling practice to the pruning back of a rose bush in a garden, it's discipline that ultimately causes growth. In what areas of your life do you sense God has been or is disciplining you? What have you learned from it?

Prayer Concerns:**Biblical discipline involves _____ and _____****The Gifts of Discipline:**

1. Assures us we are His _____ and comes from a heart of _____
2. Rescues us from _____
3. Leads us to _____
4. Develops _____ and _____
5. Directed _____ by a good and perfect _____

Personal Study/Growth Group Discussion Questions

Getting Started:

1. What were you forced to practice as a child that you resented then, but appreciate now? (piano lessons, basketball practice, language memorization, etc.)

Digging Deeper:

Read Hebrews 12:1-11

1. Before listening to the message, how did you interpret God's discipline? What is our culture's concept of discipline? How did the message help you make sense of Christian discipline?
2. What are some of the sin patterns that have tripped you up in running your spiritual race? Can you discern a time or two when God has disciplined you to bring about correction?
3. Read 2 Samuel 12:1-9. After David's sin with Bathsheba, what made Nathan's story so effective? Read Psalm 51:1-12. How is David's response instructive for us when we're confronted with sin? What is your normal response when caught?
4. How does Hebrews 12:5-8 tell us to view God's discipline? How does our view of God affect how we handle God's correction and instruction?
5. What does God want to do in our lives through trials, challenges, and hardships? In what way has He shaped you through the hard times? What "harvest of righteousness" has He produced in you as you have been trained by hardship?
6. Charles Swindoll said, "Our heavenly father is perfect, infallible, consistent, and fair, and He always uses just the right means of discipline to accomplish what He wants to accomplish in our lives." What is consistent or different about your view of God in light of this? How does a robust view of God's sovereignty help the Christian embrace discipline?