

## LIFEFAITHFUSION DEVOTIONAL

# Putting Discipline into Discipleship

LIFEFAITHFUSION  
DEVOTIONAL  
DAY TWO

SCRIPTURE STUDY

Hebrews 12: 5-11  
Proverbs 3:11-12  
Revelation 3:19  
1 John 4:8  
Psalm 6:1, 2, 9  
Psalm 32:2,5b

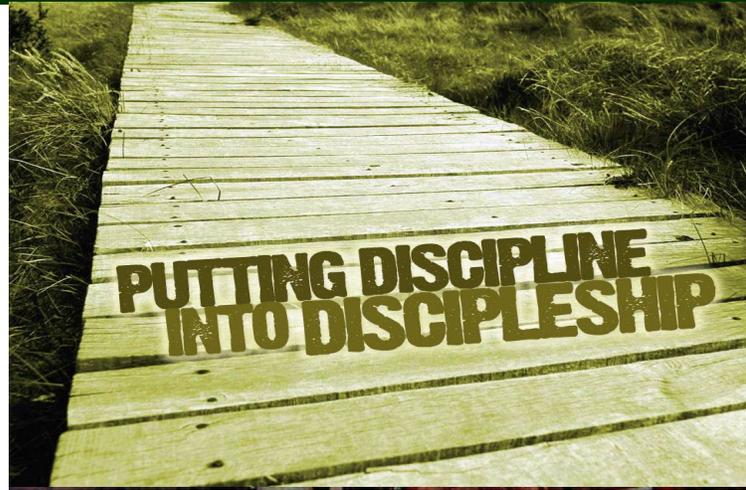
SCRIPTURE FOCUS

Paideuo-(Greek) Chasten,  
child-train, correct, reproof.

Musar-(Hebrew) discipline,  
chastening, correction, teaching

PRAYER FOCUS

Dear Jesus:  
“Help me to understand the  
depth of God’s love for me. I  
trust in His loving Hand of  
discipline.”  
Amen



GOD DISCIPLINES IN LOVE

Good. Holiness. Righteousness. Peace. These are the wonderful words that describe God’s discipline of His children. It takes a paradigm shift in our thinking to understand that discipline is *good*, and the results are *holiness*, *righteousness*, and *peace*. It takes years of experience and hindsight for the heart to understand and really believe Hebrews 12:10-11.

Solomon, in Proverbs 3:11-12, wrote these words:

“But don't, dear friend, resent God's discipline;  
don't sulk under his loving correction.  
It's the child he loves that GOD corrects;  
a father's delight is behind all this.” (MSG)

When God disciplines us it is because He loves us (Hebrews 12:5-11). In Revelations 3:19, to the people that are only lukewarm in their faith, the following warning is given:

“I *continually discipline* and punish *everyone I love*; so I must punish you,  
unless you turn  
from your indifference and become enthusiastic about the things of God.” (LB)  
(emphasis added)

God's discipline is *always* done in love because God *is* love; that is the only way He can be (1 John 4:8).

- Take a few minutes to pray and think about the words of the prayer:

Dear Jesus,  
 I don't want to resent your discipline;  
 I don't want to sulk under your loving correction.  
 I want to realize that you correct me because you love me;  
 That you correct me because you delight in me.  
 Please help me learn the truth that your discipline is for my good;  
 That your discipline will result in holiness, righteousness, and peace.  
 In Jesus Name, Amen

- Did you pray the prayer? Are you concerned about what God might do now? He knows how you feel and He's ready to lovingly transform your life to look like His beloved Son, Jesus.

- Do you believe that God's discipline is an important part of your spiritual growth? Why or why not?

### **DISCIPLINE IS NOT FUN, BUT YIELDS GODLY FRUIT**

Discipline is not fun. The writer of Hebrews was well aware of the downside of discipline:

“For the time being no discipline brings joy, but seems grievous and painful”  
 (verse 12:11a AMP)

But the writer also experienced the very positive side of discipline because he continued writing:

“but afterwards it yields a peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have  
 been trained by it [a harvest of fruit which consists in righteousness  
 --in conformity to God's will in purpose, thought, and action,  
 resulting in right living and right standing with God]. (verse 12:11b AMP)

King David is an example of Hebrews 12:11. In the spring, the time when kings went off to war, King David remained complacently at home in Jerusalem (mistake number one). One starry night, David peered over his rooftop and saw a beautiful woman bathing. Upon inquiring, David discovered that the woman he admired was married, and yet he sent for her and slept with her anyway (mistake number two and sin number one). Bathsheba conceived that night and sent word to David of her pregnancy. His ultimate solution to cover up his misdeed was to arrange for Bathsheba's husband to return home. Uriah, her husband, was a dedicated soldier, and refused to sleep with his wife while his comrades were still on the field. David, realizing his plan had failed, had Uriah sent to the front lines and subsequently murdered. (mistake number three and sin number two).

“But the thing David had done displeased the Lord” (2 Samuel 11:27b NIV). God disciplined David by sending the prophet Nathan to rebuke David. His response to the discipline was, “I have sinned against the Lord” (2 Samuel 12:13 NIV). (This was his first right decision.) Even though David repented and God forgave him, he still suffered the consequences of his sin. The son they conceived died shortly after his birth. After he passed away, David went to Bathsheba and comforted her, and from the day of his repentance, God blessed them with another child, Solomon. (The complete story is in 2 Samuel 11 & 12.)



### **APPLYING THE TRUTH**

Read: Psalm 6; Psalm 31; Psalm 32; Psalm 38; Psalm 51; Revelation 3:19

In the area below, write out the Scripture(s), thought(s), and question(s), from today's devotional that you want to spend more time thinking about. What will you apply to your life?