

PURPOSE IN THE PAIN

Hebrews 12:4-11

Big Idea: *God lovingly disciplines His children to make them more like Him.*

1. God's discipline is always working for _____ and _____ in us.

⁴ "You have not yet resisted to the point of shedding blood in your striving against sin."

A.) Correction:

Psalm 32:3-5 "When I kept silent about my sin, my body wasted away Through my groaning all day long. ⁴For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me; My vitality was drained away as with the fever heat of summer. Selah. ⁵I acknowledged my sin to You, and my iniquity I did not hide; I said, 'I will confess my transgressions to the Lord'; And You forgave the guilt of my sin. Selah."

B.) Prevention:

2 Corinthians 12:7-9 "Because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, for this reason, to keep me from exalting myself, there was given me a thorn in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me—to keep me from exalting myself! ⁸Concerning this I implored the Lord three times that it might leave me. ⁹And He has said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness.'"

C.) Education:

Deuteronomy 8:2-5 "You shall remember all the way which the Lord your God has led you in the wilderness these forty years, that He might humble you, testing you, to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep His commandments or not. ³He humbled you and let you be hungry, and fed you with manna which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that He might make you understand that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by everything that proceeds out of the mouth of the Lord. ⁴Your clothing did not wear out on you, nor did your foot swell these forty years. ⁵Thus you are to know in your heart that the Lord your God was disciplining you just as a man disciplines his son."

2. God's discipline is evidence that we are _____ and _____ .

⁷ "It is for discipline that you endure; God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom his father does not discipline? ⁸ But if you are without discipline, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate children and not sons."

Proverbs 3:11-12 "My son, do not reject the discipline of the Lord Or loathe His reproof, ¹² For whom the Lord loves He reproofs, even as a father *corrects* the son in whom he delights."

Revelation 3:19 "Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline; therefore, be zealous and repent."

3. God's discipline is _____ but produces _____ .

⁹ "Furthermore, we had earthly fathers to discipline us, and we respected them; shall we not much rather be subject to the Father of spirits, and live?"

Proverbs 6:23 "For the commandment is a lamp and the teaching is light; And reproofs for discipline are the way of life."

1 Peter 1:15-16 "But like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in all your behavior; ¹⁶ because it is written, 'You shall be holy, for I am holy.'"

NOTES: