

Responding to God's Loving Discipline

August 6, 2023

Pastor Mark Turner

Hebrews 12:7-11

Oakbrook Community Church (PCA)

To respond properly to our Father's discipline, submit to it and grow in holiness through it 7-8

- Remember that the Father's discipline is an essential part of the father-son relationship.
Ps 73:3-5; Ps 38:1-8,18-21
- Remember that our Father's discipline is administered for our eternal good that we might share in His holiness 9-10
 - If the imperfect discipline of our earthly fathers was helpful, how much more is the perfect discipline of our Heavenly Father? Ps 139:1-5,23-24
 - Knowing God's discipline is perfect, we should willingly trust God's discipline and live with joy. Heb 12:13; Ps 119:75

Submit to the Father's discipline because while it may be difficult in the present, we know that it produces the peaceful fruit of righteousness as we are trained by it 11

- No discipline is pleasant. Jesus^{Heb5:7}
- Cry out using God's Word: Psalm 13; 43; 69; 79; 80; 90; 130
- Balance between rejoice^{1Ths5:16} & weeping^{Mk14:34; Jn11:35} look to Paul^{2Cor6:4-10} by knowing God is preparing us for eternity!
- Discipline & trials conform us to the image of Christ^{Rm8:28-29}

God's discipline produces the peaceful fruit of righteousness in many ways:

- by teaching us the terrible devastation caused by sin
Lord forgave David but raised up evil^{2Sm12:11; 2Sm13,15}
- by stripping us of self-righteousness and pride
Peter proud^{Mk14:29} was humbled^{Mk14:72}; Paul^{2Co1:8-9}
- by helping us keep our eyes focused on eternity
Life is a mist^{Jm4:14}; focus on eternity^{2Co4:16-17}
- by uncovering hidden sins and our weaknesses
We're to be Christlike^{Rm8:29}; affliction prepares us^{2Co4:16-17}
- by strengthening our faith and driving us closer to Christ
God desires us to be dependent & Spirit filled^{2Co12:9-10}
- by developing Christlike compassion and humility in us
Our afflictions strip our arrogance
- by developing the fruit of the Spirit in us and making us faithful in service to our Lord
Parable of Vine^{Jn15:2}; Fruit of the Spirit^{Gal5:22-24}