

# Parenting Matters

Family Matters | August 25, 2024

**Hebrews 1:3**—*He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high...*

## MAIN POINT

**God's discipline brings what we really want and need.**

## WHAT DOES THE BOOK OF HEBREWS SHOW US ABOUT PARENTING?

### 1. Discipline is loving.

**Hebrews 12:3-6**—*Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted. In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons? "My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him. For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives."*

**Proverbs 12:1**—*Whoever loves discipline loves knowledge, but he who hates reproof is stupid.*

## 2. Discipline proves our place.

**Hebrews 12:7-10**—*It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline? If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. Besides this, we have had earthly fathers who disciplined us and we respected them. Shall we not much more be subject to the Father of spirits and live? For they disciplined us for a short time as it seemed best to them, but he disciplines us for our good, that we may share his holiness.*

**Proverbs 3:11-12**—*My son, do not despise the Lord's discipline or be weary of his reproof, for the Lord reproves him whom he loves, as a father the son in whom he delights.*

## 3. Discipline may be uncomfortable, but it is healing.

**Hebrews 12:11-13**—*For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it. Therefore lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees, and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be put out of joint but rather be healed.*

**Revelation 3:19-20 (NLT)**—*I correct and discipline everyone I love. So be diligent and turn from your indifference. Look! I stand at the door and knock. If you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in, and we will share a meal together as friends.*

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*All verses quoted in English Standard Version unless otherwise noted.*

Rewatch today's message online at [bcachurch.com/messages](http://bcachurch.com/messages).

# STUDY GUIDE: 8/25/24

Begin your group with prayer. Have one or two people share a testimony from their week. Keep it positive and reflect on the good things God has done.

## STUDY QUESTIONS

1. In what ways can you relate to the idea that discipline is an expression of love, both from God and within your own experience as a parent or leader? How does this change your perspective on the challenges you face?
2. Hebrews 12:7-10 suggests that enduring discipline is part of being treated as God's children. How can we support each other in enduring difficult situations, and how can we remind ourselves of our identity as God's children during tough times?
3. In our current culture, self-love often becomes self-indulgence. How can you practice self-discipline as a way to care for yourself? What role does self-discipline play in your personal growth?
4. How can we find comfort and healing in the midst of suffering, knowing that it is part of our journey as believers? Share an experience where you found growth or comfort through a challenging situation.
5. How can the principles of discipline and love from the sermon be applied to your family, workplace, or community? What specific actions can you take to model this type of discipline and support others in their growth?
6. Imagine if everyone in your family or community embraced the idea of discipline as love and growth. What changes would you expect to see, and how would these changes impact your relationships and interactions with others?