

## DISCIPLINE BECAUSE OF THE REWARDS

*“the peaceable fruit of righteousness...”*

*“The life of the Teacher is the life he is Teaching”*

TEXT: *Prov. 10:1; Prov. 29:17; Prov. 29:15*

*Prov. 10:1 “The proverbs of Solomon. A wise son maketh a glad father: but a foolish son is the heaviness of his mother”*

*Prov. 29:17 “Correct thy son, and he shall give thee rest; yea, he shall give delight unto thy soul.”*

*Prov. 29:15 “The rod and reproof give wisdom: but a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame.”*

### INTRODUCTION:

Just a few things in life can be a greater blessing and delight than raising children. Also, few can be as great a burden and despair. Four thousand years have not been sufficient to dull the pain from this pathetic prayer of an indulgent father recorded for us in *2Samuel 18:33 “And the king was much moved, and went up to the chamber over the gate, and wept: and as he went, thus he said, O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! would God I had died for thee, O Absalom, my son, my son!”*

#### I. THE REWARD OF DISCIPLINE IS \_\_\_\_\_ :

A. Character begins with Faith in Christ.

Heb. 11:6 Without faith it is impossible to please God

B. Character ends with right \_\_\_\_\_ and right \_\_\_\_\_.

*Matt. 5:26-28 “Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye are like unto whited sepulchres, which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead men’s bones, and of all uncleanness. 28, Even so ye also outwardly appear righteous unto men, but within ye are full of hypocrisy and iniquity. ”*

C. Character is the product of the Holy Spirit.

*Ezek. 36:26 “A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.”*

D. Allow the Spirit to produce:

*Gal. 5:22-23 “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.*

- Walk in the Holy Spirit

*Gal. 5:16 This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.*

- Quench not the Spirit. 1Thes. 5:19

## II. POOR PARENTING BEGINS WITH:

- \_\_\_\_\_ as a man and father – David had many wives. David had six sons born to six different wives. (2Sam. 3:2-5)
- Tolerant as a parent of disobedience in your home. 2Sam. 13:1,2
- Law of sowing and reaping - The sin of the parent will pass on to the children. Ammon went unpunished and unreprieved for his rape of Tamar.
- Tamar's plea to Ammon at the point of her rape reveals David's indulgent policy toward his children "...*Now therefore speak to the King, for he will not withhold me from thee.*" 2Sam. 13:13
- David's \_\_\_\_\_ is seen in his attitude toward Absalom in the height of his rebellion as David instructs his generals concerning his son: "...*deal gently with the young man, even with Absalom.*" 2Sam. 18:5
- David's indulgence is seen in Adonijah who could not restrain himself from attempting to become King in place of Solomon. *1Kings 1:5,6 Then Adonijah the son of Haggith exalted himself, saying, I will be king: and he prepared him chariots and horsemen, and fifty men to run before him. 6, And his father had not displeased him at any time in saying, Why hast thou done so? and he also was a very goodly man; and his mother bare him after Absalom.*
- David again his indulgence is seen in Adonijah could not restrain himself from attempting to become king in place of Solomon. Verse 6 tells why Adonijah had no self-discipline: "and his father had not displeased him at any time saying, why hast thou done so?"

## III. MISCONCEPTIONS THAT PARENTS STILL MAKE:

- CHILDREN ALWAYS HAVE AN INFLUENCE ON YOU: You are raising your children for a lifetime of burdens or blessings. When you are 60 and that are 35, they will still be as much your son or daughter as they were at five.
- LOVE FOR CHILDREN DOES NOT CREATE \_\_\_\_\_ IN THEM: David loved his children as much or more than you love yours. Would it have been possible for him to have changed places with Absalom, he would have. LOVE IS NOT ENOUGH.
- \_\_\_\_\_ ADVANTAGE IS NOT ENOUGH EVEN WHEN COUPLED WITH AN ABUNDANCE OF LOVE.

- The material advantages of David's children should be considered. Both Absalom and Adonijah had fifty men to run before them. David was one of the wealthiest men in history. His children had every material advantage, the finest clothes, the most extravagant home, the very best of good, the highest society, culture, and art are far from sufficient to produce happy, obedient, loving children, who live to their potential, honor their father and mother, and have a right relationship with God.
- *Prov. 4: 1-4 "Hear, ye children, the instruction of a father, and attend to know understanding. 2, For I give you good doctrine, forsake ye not my law. 3, For I was my father's son, tender and only beloved in the sight of my mother. 4, He taught me also, and said unto me, let thine heart retain my words: keep my commandments, and live.*
- David gave his youngest son an education of every high spiritual and moral content. Despite this, Solomon ended his life in sin and disgrace. Christian school, church, Bible study, and spiritual worship are not enough! Your children could have all these, but without the corrective side of discipline at home, they could still grow up to be selfish, self-centered rebels like David's children, who had every emotional, material, and spiritual advantage. Yet without discipline, they came to sorrow, disgrace and an early grave.
- Think of the consequences of the children of spiritual, but indulgent, parents like David. THEY HAD \_\_\_\_\_, BUT NO \_\_\_\_\_.

  - After his rape of Tamar, Amnon's love turned to hate. (2Sam. 13:15)
  - Absalom had enough Bible conviction to be angry unto death with Amnon, but he did not have the character to face the matter down righteously, therefore, he conspired and murdered his brother. Then rebelled against his father because of his guilt.
  - WITHOUT CHARACTER, YOUR CONVICTIONS WILL DESTROY YOU. CONDUCT CONTRARY TO CONVICTION DESTROY. MOREOVER, INDULGED, SPOILED, PAMPERED CHILDREN ARE UNHAPPY AND UNSATISFIED.

#### IV. TRUE BIBLE DISCIPLE WILL:

- A. Continue to bear fruit in the child throughout life. *Prov. 22:6 "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it."*
- B. Will lead a child to salvation. *Prov. 23:13 "Withhold not correction from the child: for if thou beatest him with the rod, he shall not die."*
- C. Will lead a child to maturity, self-discipline, and build character. *Prov. 29:15 "The rod and reproof give wisdom: but a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame." Prov. 22:15 "Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him."*

*Prov. 29:17 "Correct thy son, and he shall give thee rest; yea, he shall give delight unto thy soul."*

**CONCLUSION:** Rest and a delighted soul are the consequence of a child of character. Character can be defined as what makes a person distinct from others, often with a particular emphasis on moral qualities. When we think of a person who has good character, we often describe them with terms like integrity, honesty, strong moral fiber, care and concern for others, and the like. Character is demonstrated in actions, but true character resides in the heart.