



Hebrews

Sermon Points & Notes

Week 16 - 5.12.24 | Tyler Wilson

Title: Tough Love

Scripture: Hebrews 12:3-17

Main Point: Whether reactive correction to sin or proactive formation through suffering, God's discipline is loving training that we must surrender to in order to receive the benefits & endure.

Hebrews 12:3-9:

Principle #1 - **God disciplines those He loves:**

Discipline is loving.

- Love does not withhold discipline.
- Discipline is not a bad word - it's a word of committed love.

2 Ditches to God's Discipline:

1. **To Disregard it** - Pride & Minimization:
denies the loving training and says, "I don't need any more correction or growth."
2. **To be Disheartened by it** - Self-Pity & Despair:
denies the loving training and says, "I can't take any more correction or growth."

Scripture References: Job 5:17-18; Rev. 3:19

Hebrews 12:10-13:

Principle #2 - **God's Discipline is Discipleship:**

It's productively for our good.

2 Types of Discipline:

1. **Reactive Correction to Sin** - We're responsible for the cause / these are consequences.
2. **Proactive Formation through Suffering** - We're not responsible for the cause.

Principle #3 - **God's Discipline Requires Surrender:**

to receive the benefits you have to be willing to be trained by it.

Joseph Pilates:

Change happens through movement, and movement heals.

Hebrews 12:14-17

Principle #4 - **Discipline is a Community Project:**

We have a collective responsibility to help one another endure by being a part of God's discipline in each other's lives.

Scripture References: Deut. 29:18

SHEPHERDING & APPLICATION:

1. God's Discipline is Loving

- a) Truth - Whether reactive correction to sin or proactive formation through suffering, it is pure parental love to not leave us in the self-destruction of our brokenness & immaturity.
- b) Action - Therefore, stop resisting it - stop disregarding it or being disheartened by it.

c) Reflection -

(1) Do you see discipline as loving or as bad / mean? why?

(2) Are there any areas you're disregarding the Lord's discipline right now? How about giving in to weariness in it?

2. God's Discipline is Discipleship

a) Truth - It's purposeful, producing something immensely valuable inside us - the happy & holy peaceful fruit of righteousness. Discipline is for our good and is therefore better than any alternative path.

b) Action - Therefore, endure with hope, knowing it is not wasted or worthless but profoundly meaningful. Seek to understand any causal factors.

c) Reflection -

(1) Do you forget the encouraging reality this is productive?

Do you tend instead to complain about it, get angry over it, or seek to escape it in search of relief?

(2) Do you tend to complain about it? Are you angry with the Lord for it?

(3) Are you rightly understanding the cause and factors at play in your discipline?

3. God's Discipline Requires Surrender

- a) Truth - Receiving the benefits are not automatic, but are contingent on your response. You must be willing to be trained by God's discipline.
- b) Action - Therefore, accept it and act on it. Surrender to Lord in the midst of your hardship and be ready to exert spiritual energy to become stronger, remembering forward motion is a part of your healing.
- c) Reflection -
 - (1) What is God working in you through this discipline? Are you surrendering & receiving the healing help in these lessons or resisting them?
 - (2) What action steps in response are you being sluggish in? What do you need to start doing differently today?

4. God's Discipline is a Community Project

- a) Truth - Endurance is not a private race: We have a collective responsibility to help each other endure by engaging in each other's discipline / discipleship. You can help or hinder our collective endurance.
- b) Action - Therefore, follow these 6 exhortations to protect the larger church body & be willing to help each other be disciplined.

c) Reflection -

- (1) Are you proactively protecting others' endurance by how you're pursuing these 6 exhortations? Are there any you're failing in?
- (2) Are you actively engaging in others' discipline / discipleship? If not, why not?