

Grace, Mercy, Love, and Discipline
Jeremiah 3 & 30
Al Gascon | August 3, 2025

“Relationships without rules lead to resentment.” — Tim Kimmel

“Rules without relationship leads to rebellion.” — Josh McDowell

- Every child needs discipline. Every single child.

Proverbs 29:17

Proverbs 22:15

- The Grow-Up Principle: What will become of my child if this negative behavior continues when they’re 10 years older from their current age?
- Raising children, especially in the midst of discipline, showcases your own failures before the Lord and should make you be in awe of his loving kindness and grace every single day.

Parenting Pointers

1. Remember the goal of parenting: to shepherd a child to choose Christ and pass him down generationally.
2. Remember the Goal of discipline: cultivate our child’s mind, morals, and attitudes towards self-discipline.
3. Be as calm and resolute as a first responder.
4. Use the 10 year grow up principle.
5. Ask the two questions: how does this child love & what does this child need?
6. Recall how good your heavenly father is when he parents your misbehaviors.
7. God’s discipline is redemptive. Yours should be too.
8. Your rules and expectations must be simple enough for your child to remember.
9. The younger the child the quicker the consequence.
10. Progress from requests>commands>gentle physical manipulation>punishment
11. Punishment should not be the primary form of discipline, especially without love.
12. Don’t make it personal (both your reaction and your punishment).
13. Don’t retaliate and punish in anger.
14. Don’t put words in God’s mouth.
15. Call out what they’ve done, don’t attack who they are.
16. Remember to celebrate and verbally praise them for the good they do.
17. Express your love both before and after discipline.
18. Be at your best when your kids are at their worst.
19. Ask for forgiveness when you wrong them.
20. Use the disciplinary method that you feel works best for your child.
21. Avoid, as much as possible, discipline related to your child’s primary love language.

Discussion Questions:

- a. In what way do you believe the Lord disciplines you?
- b. Can you recall a time you were disciplined by a parent in love when you were a child?
- c. What is your child's love language and how do you believe you can refrain from punishing them in a way that relates to their love language?
- d. How has or will the idea of "discipline for the sake of redemption" shape discipline and consequences in your house moving forward?
- e. What are things you can do to remind yourself to be at your best when your kids are at their worst?