

Fatherly Advice About Dad

3 keys to understanding the text:

Hebrews 12:4-13, Matthew 7:9-12, Proverbs 3:11-18, John 10:10

1. God's discipline is not about our **PAST**, but our **FUTURE**.

It is **PREPARATION**, not **PUNITIVE**.

It is **TRAINING**, not **PUNISHMENT**.

2. A dad who doesn't **DISCIPLINE**, is a dad who doesn't **LOVE**.

3. Dad's ultimate goals for us are:

HOLINESS

PEACE

RIGHTEOUSNESS

2 things to take home:

Hebrews 12:4-13, Ephesians 6:1-4, Colossians 3:20-21

1. A great dad will always **BUILD**, but never **BREAK** a child.

2. Treat every **OBSTACLE** as an **OPPORTUNITY** to shine.

Food for Thought for the week of June 17, 2018

(Questions and Scriptures for further study)

This weekend we were reminded of the importance of discipline or training as children of God. It's worth noting many people struggle with the word "discipline," which could easily remind them of past punishment or something negative. The Apostle Paul helps us take a closer look at discipline in 1 Corinthians 9:24-27, and gives a racing *metaphor in an attempt to help us better understand how discipline benefits us. As you go through the passage write down how he explains his metaphor, as well as any other words that catch your attention.

*A metaphor is comparing two unlike things.

1 Corinthians 9:24-27 *New International Version (NIV)*

The Need for Self-Discipline

²⁴ Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. ²⁵ Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever. ²⁶ Therefore I do not run like someone running aimlessly; I do not fight like a boxer beating the air. ²⁷ No, I strike a blow to my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize.

How do the verses below elaborate on the word "crown" used in 1 Corinthians 9:25?

2 Timothy 4:1-8 *New International Version (NIV)*

4 In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge: ² Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction. ³ For the time will come when people will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. ⁴ They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths. ⁵ But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry.

⁶ For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time for my departure is near. ⁷ I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. ⁸ Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

James 1:12 *New International Version (NIV)*

¹² Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him.

1 Peter 5:1-4 *New International Version (NIV)*

To the Elders and the Flock

5 To the elders among you, I appeal as a fellow elder and a witness of Christ's sufferings who also will share in the glory to be revealed: ² Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, watching over them—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve; ³ not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock. ⁴ And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away.

What actions in the verses above are most challenging for you?

What comparison to a crown do you see in Philippians 3:12-14 and what is Paul's encouragement to his readers?

Philippians 3:12-14 *New International Version (NIV)*

¹² Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. ¹³ Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

As you think through the sermon, and verses above, are there any actions or attitudes regarding discipline you want to focus on in the next week?