What Does God Say About Disciplining Children

Ralph Walker · Hebrews 12:4–11 · Series: **Meeting with Ralph Walker**

INTRODUCTION

- I have chosen him so that he may command his children and his household after him to keep the way of the Lord by doing righteousness and justice.
- Discipline is more than punishment. Punishment is a part of discipline, but discipline is more than that.

1 Jesus Grew in Wisdom, Stature, and Favor

Luke 2:52; Luke 2:40

- Jesus kept increasing in wisdom and stature in favor with God and with men.
- Too much or too little emphasis on any one of these four areas can cause an imbalance in the lives of our children.
- If you've got that last one down first, and you're really concerned about what God wants, those other three will happen.

2 Every Parent Is to Discipline

Hebrews 12:4–7

- For those whom the Lord loves, he disciplines. And he scourges every son whom he receives.
- Every parent is to discipline. This is not something any parent can say, well, that's just not my thing.
- It is the child's responsibility to rebel. It is the parents' responsibility to contain that rebellion within safe, appropriate limits.

3 Discipline as a Badge of Family Ownership

Hebrews 12:8–9; Proverbs 13:24

- I think the point of that is every child needs discipline as a badge of family ownership.
- He who withholds his rod hates his son.
- Concrete love is discipline. He who loves him disciplines him diligently.
- That's not discipline. Discipline is training. It's saying when you do this is the result.

4 God Always Disciplines for the Child's Good

Hebrews 12:10–11

- He disciplines us for our good, so that we may share his holiness.
- Let me tell you to remember all discipline should be for the benefit of the child.
- Don't ever discipline just out of anger or revenge. Discipline because it's good for the child.

- All discipline for the moment seems not to be joyful, but sorrowful. But to those who have been trained by it, afterwards, it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness.

5 Number One, Consistency

- You got to be consistent in your discipline. You have to be consistent with your own actions and your own life.
- You have to tell them to do as I do. Not do as I say.
- Be consistent. With your own principles. With your own rules. Always enforce those rules the same way.
- And then be consistent in the unity of the parents.

6 Respect Your Children

- Don't humiliate your children when you discipline them.
- Can't you take that child that needs disciplining and pull him off to the side?
- That child may cry, but that child is not humiliated.
- Respect your children, even as you discipline them.
- It is not improper for you to spank them and then hug them and remind them you love them.

> THE CHALLENGE
>
> **And we better make sure we're doing what we can to create the atmosphere in our homes that will guide them to Jesus Christ.**

MY NOTES