

sermon notes

Pastor Tony Caffey, Verse By Verse Fellowship | Christ Supreme in All Things
June 4, 2023 | "God's Good Discipline" | **Hebrews 12:4-11**

- 1) God uses _____ to refine his _____
(12:4)

- 2) God uses _____ to confirm his _____
(12:5-8)

- 3) God uses _____ to produce in us his _____
(12:9-11)

Questions for Further Application of God's Word:

GO DEEPER

Read Hebrews 12:4-11. How does the author of Hebrews correlate God's relationship with us to that of a father and a son? According to this passage, how does God show love to his children? In our modern world, is this a countercultural way of showing love? How is the discipline described in Proverbs and in this passage of Hebrews different from our culture's concept of parental discipline?

What are some ways that God disciplines us? Does he correct us when we sin? Does he allow us to endure suffering? Does he lead us through challenging difficulties? Does he pour out his wrath on us? Why or why not?

GET PERSONAL

What are some challenges that God has used in your life to help you grow spiritually? In the midst of those challenges, were you tempted to think that God had abandoned you or that he was punishing you?

Hebrews 12:10 says that God "disciplines us for our good, that we may share his holiness." How has God's discipline in your life led to growth in holiness? Also Hebrews 12:11 says that painful discipline yields "the peaceful fruit of righteousness." Think of some ways that discipline leads to righteousness. Why doesn't God just immediately make us sinless when we get saved? Why does he make us go through painful discipline to produce righteousness?

PUT IT INTO PRACTICE

What would your life look like today if God had chosen not to discipline you? What growth do you see in your life as a result of God's loving discipline? Take a few minutes now to thank him for his loving and corrective discipline in your life.

ADVANCED QUESTION

Paul says that we are imputed righteousness when we get saved (see Rom 3:21-25; 4:5, 2 Cor 5:21; Gal 2:16; Phil 3:9). This is called justification. Is the righteousness that Hebrews 12:11 speaks of imputed righteousness? If so, what does discipline have to do with it? If not, how does this righteousness (empirical righteousness of a believer?) relate to imputed righteousness?