

Hebrews Part Two

Lesson #22, Chapter 12:7-13

Read Chapter 12 with a heart of anticipation for what the Lord will teach you out of His Word.

1. Every time the English word “discipline” is used in Heb. 12:5-11, the same Greek word with the same definition is used. Define *discipline* (NKJV *chastening* [Strong’s #3809]).
 - a. Define *endure* [Strong’s #5278]. See also 12:2-3.
 - b. How do James 1:2-4 and James 1:12 help explain the idea of *remaining under* trials because of the training it provides?
2. Hebrews 12:7 begins, “It is for discipline that you endure.” Why would anyone *endure* discipline? See verses 5-7.
3. How would those truths from verses 5-7 help you endure any trials you may face?
4. What rhetorical question is asked in verse 7? What answer is assumed?
5. What does the author assume about every earthly father?

6. What does it mean if you are *not* being trained by the Lord? See verse 8.
 - a. As children, how did we respond to our parent's training according to verse 9?

7. To what obvious conclusion does the author bring us in verse 9?

8. The author's question in verse 9 takes us to the heart of our response to trials. If trials are part of our heavenly Father's perfect plan to make us more like Himself, then how do we need to respond? How are we often tempted to respond instead?

9. What are some crucial truths to remember next time you experience inconveniences, difficulty, affliction, or persecution?

10. Though this section of Scripture is primarily about the wise discipline we receive from our loving Father, we can still glean principles for our earthly parenting as we follow God's example. Describe the parenting of earthly fathers according to verse 10.

11. Now describe the parenting of our heavenly Father from verse 10.

12. Describe some of the ways and means of parenting, as well as its purpose, from the following verses: Deut. 8:2-5; Prov. 3:12; 13:24; 19:18; 29:15, 17; Eph. 6:4; Col. 3:21.

13. How does God employ those same parenting strategies with us?

14. List what you learn about discipline from verse 11.

15. Define *trained* from verse 11 [Strong's #1128]. See how the same word is used in 1 Tim. 4:7; Heb. 5:14; and 2 Pet. 2:14.

16. What result comes *after* the training according to verse 11? What picture comes to your mind when you think of this result?
 - a. How does that truth provide hope in the midst of affliction?

17. The beautiful goal of God's parenting causes the author to consider those in the body who may need to hear about God's intended result. What kinds of people are described?

18. What circumstances were the Hebrew believers facing that would magnify the weaknesses and frailties of their brethren in Christ?

19. What we see in verses 12-13 is the body of Christ. Not everyone is strong all the time, some are still young in the faith and so still weak, some have grown old and feeble, and some have been injured in some way and need special care. What is your responsibility to these different groups according to verses 12-13?

20. Why do you need to help the weak and frail? See 12:1.
21. How would you encourage these fellow believers from Hebrews 12:1-11?

Come, children of God, do not be despondent because of your tribulations.
YOU ARE IN A RACE,
SO RUN even while you are smarting from your chastisements, STILL RUN,
and KEEP ON RUNNING until you win the prize.¹

¹Charles H. Spurgeon, *Spurgeon's Sermons: Volume 1*, electronic ed., Logos Library System; Spurgeon's Sermons (Albany, OR: Ages Software, 1998).