

Discipline



Outline

- What is the meaning of Discipline?
- Disciplining our children
- What does the Holy Bible tell us?
- Case Study
- Conclusion and application in our service
- Effective methods of Discipline

What is the meaning of Discipline?

The practice of training people to obey rules or a code of behavior, using punishment to correct disobedience



Disciplining Our Children

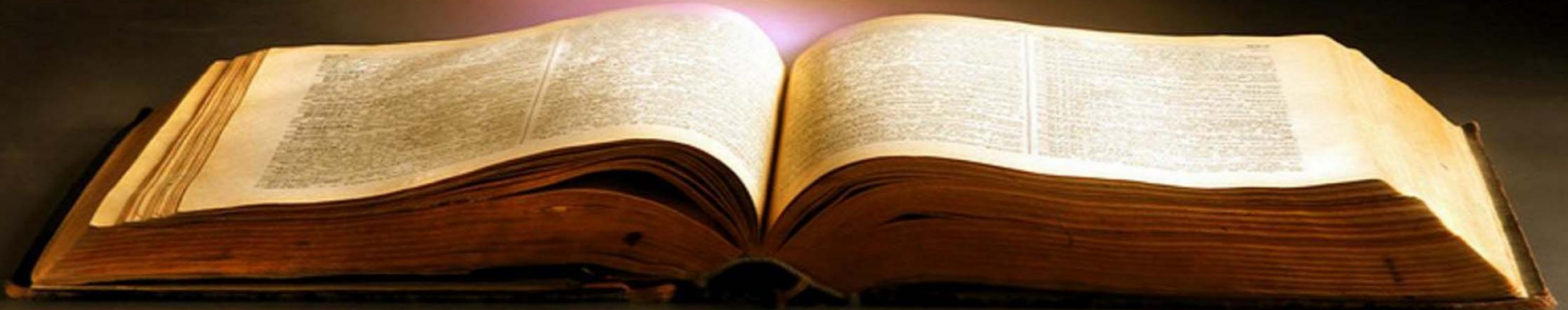
- The motive in discipline: **to express love**
- The necessity of discipline: **to deter destruction**
- The means of discipline: **actions and words**
- The goal of discipline: **to teach obedience**
- The result of discipline: **short-term pain and long-term gain**



What does the Holy Bible tell us?

“My son, do not despise the chastening of the Lord, Nor detest His correction. For whom the Lord loves He corrects, Just as a father the son in whom He delights” (*Proverbs 3:11-12*)

“For the commandment is a lamp and the law is light; Reproofs of instructions are the way of life” (*Proverbs 6:23*)



CASE STUDY:

Disturbing Behavior and Disobedience

Michael is a nine year old boy who attends Sunday School class at your church. Despite his regular attending of the class, Michael is well known for his disturbing behavior and disobedience.

During the summer camp, Michael continues to follow his own agenda despite the strict rules given to him. The Sunday School teacher, Jean, has warned Michael that continuing to not follow the rules will result in losing his arts and crafts time.

Surely, when it was time for arts and crafts, Michael was asked to step outside the class.

The child leaves the room and runs crying to his mother who was attending her Bible Study meeting in the next door classroom.

The mother who is a popular woman in church comes storming at the teacher for discriminating against him and demands that Michael goes back to the classroom and join his classmates in their fun time.

The mother later on starts to badmouth Jean amongst her social circle in church stating that she is “inexperienced” and an “unspiritual” servant and should be immediately removed from serving little kids.

Case Questions

1. Was it right for Jean to ask Michael to leave the classroom?
2. Why?
3. How would you react to the kid's crying?
4. How would you respond to the angry mother?
5. How would you feel about the mother's behavior?
6. Do you know of any Biblical examples to guide you in this situation?

Lessons from Case Study

- I. Servants should be spiritually stronger than others and tolerate wrong behavior, resembling their Lord.**

“We then who are strong ought to bear with the scruples of the weak, and not to please ourselves. Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, leading to edification. For even Christ did not please Himself; but as it is written, ‘The reproaches of those who reproached You fell on Me.’”

(Romans 15:1-7)

Lessons from Case Study

II. The servant should have the mindset of being in debt to the Lord Christ and his children (all people).

“I am a debtor both to Greeks and to barbarians, both to wise and to unwise. So, as much as is in me, I am ready to preach the gospel to you who are in Rome also.”

(Romans 1:14)

Lessons from Case Study

III. Service is based on bearing the cross with the Lord Christ.

“Then Jesus said to His disciples, ‘If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.’”

(Matthew 16:24)

Lessons from Case Study

iv. Servants feel happy if they really suffer with the Lord Christ

“So they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for His name.”

(Acts 5: 41)

Effective Methods of Discipline

- Don't punish a child about something you do already
- Don't discipline a child in front of people
- Punish after warning and communicating the consequence
- Always apply the consequence that you agreed on
- Don't punish a child who already felt bad about his mistake