

The Light - Junior Series

Lesson 122

Family

How Does Our Heavenly Father Treat Us?



2019

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

If YOU have never personally believed in the Lord Jesus Christ as your Savior; you have the opportunity to do so right NOW. Just tell God the Father that you believe in His Son, Jesus Christ, who loved us so much that He came down from heaven and became a man to take our place and pay for the penalty for all the sins of all mankind. Jesus, the Savior, died on the Cross for your sins and the sins of the whole world. Then Jesus was buried but He rose again and He is alive today seated at the right hand of the Father in heaven. When you make the decision to believe in Jesus in simple faith based on His work on the Cross, you are now a believer and will always be a child of God. When you die, you will spend eternity with Him in Heaven. (Acts 16:31) "Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved." (John 3:16) "God loved the world so much that He gave is One and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."



LESSON

Do you get punished when you misbehave? Do you get spanked? Well, you probably have experienced at least one of these, right kids?

The question for you in this lesson is: How does our heavenly Father treat us when we sin?!? How does He parent us?



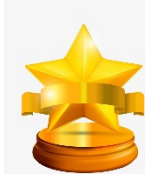
"I have thought about my actions and realize my desire for instant gratification clouded my judgment."

First of all, let's look at who we are as believers in Jesus Christ in Rom 8:14-17. "For all (believers) who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are **sons of God**. (15) For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of **adoption as sons** by which we cry out, "**Abba! Father!**" (**Daddy!**) (16) The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that **we are children of God**, (17) and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him so that we may also be glorified with Him (when He comes for us at the Rapture)."

So, how does our heavenly Father treat us when we sin? Well, yes, He does discipline us. We find this in the Bible in Heb 12:4-11. "**In your struggle against sin, you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding blood;** (5) and you have forgotten the exhortation which is addressed to you as sons, 'MY SON, DO NOT REGARD LIGHTLY THE DISCIPLINE OF THE LORD, NOR FAINT WHEN YOU ARE SCOLDED BY HIM; (6) FOR THOSE WHOM THE LORD LOVES HE DISCIPLINES, AND HE CHASTISES EVERY SON WHOM HE RECEIVES.'



(7) It is for discipline that you have to endure; **God is treating you as with sons (and daughters)**; for what son is there whom his father does not discipline? (8) But if you are not disciplined, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. (9) Furthermore, we had earthly fathers who discipline us, and we respected them (we learn from it); shall we not much more be subject to the Father of spirits, and live? (10) For they disciplined us for a short time as seemed best to them, but He (God the Father) disciplines us for our good, so that we may share His holiness. (11) All discipline for the moment seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it gives the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.



But HOW does our Father discipline us? Well, we know He certainly doesn't come down and physically hit us with a stick or a whip.

When we consider WHY He disciplines us, it is for our benefit, to produce endurance and patience, to produce fruit, peace, and righteousness. He disciplines us in a way that it will get our attention and make us think twice about repeating our sin or misbehavior.



When you check out the book of Hebrews, especially chapter 11 with its Old Testament illustrations about Noah, Abraham, Moses and lots of others, you'll see what the training did for them, and you'll understand why God the Father did it.

We, when we are disciplined by our heavenly Father, get the same results as Hebrews speaks of – endurance, patience, our service to Jesus, which is our fruit. It helps us to change and do the right things.

You discover that the discipline of the Father is actually suffering for the cause of Christ. Since Jesus suffered, we definitely will suffer on earth. Not all the time of course but we will have times that we will suffer and it will make us stronger in Christ.

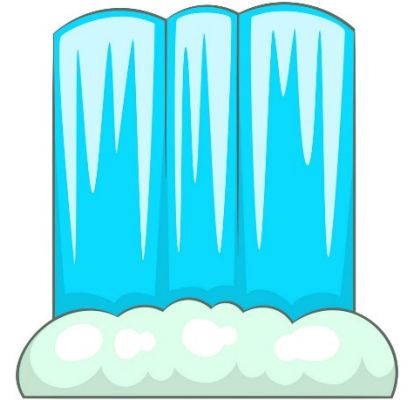
How does our heavenly Father treat us? He treats us with GRACE!!! He gets our attention with discipline (personal to you) and then He pours on the GRACE to get us through it. His point is: learn the lessons He wants for us to learn from the discipline.

This is how He treats us, and note carefully that this is how He treats us concerning our SINS!

Rom 6:12-14 "Therefore do not let sin rule in your mortal body so that you obey its lusts, (13) and do not go on presenting the members of your body to sin as instruments of unrighteousness; but present yourselves to God as those alive from the dead, and your members (body parts) as instruments of righteousness to God. (14) For sin shall not be master over you, for you are not under law (of sin) but under grace."

He encourages us and He gives us the power to overcome our bad behavior and in fact we will overcome it! Jesus overcame the evil world and we are in Jesus so we overcome the world, too.

God our Father will not ever say, "*you'll never change*", "*If you keep this up, you'll end up in jail*". You will NEVER get that from God our Father, NEVER. He treats us in grace.



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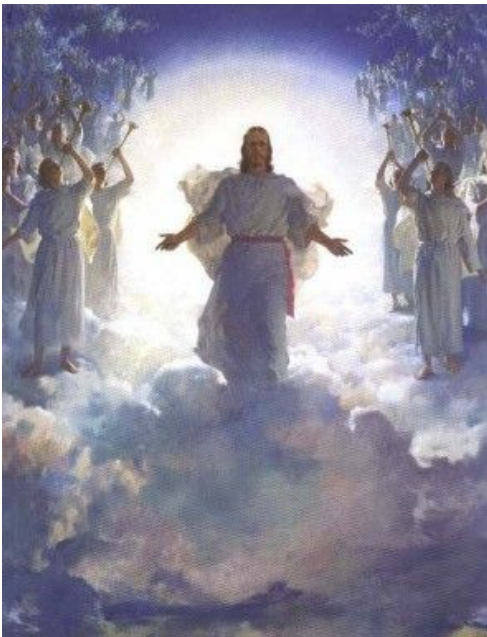
Never forget that at the moment you believe in Christ, God the Father turns to the angels and declares to them that He sees you as being perfect in His eyes. That's because when you believe in Jesus as your Savior, He gives you Jesus' perfect righteousness as a gift.

After all, it is that same book of Hebrews where we are told by the Lord...

Heb 10:10-18 "By this will we have been sanctified (set apart for a purpose for God) through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. (11) Every priest stands daily ministering and offering time after time the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins; (12) but He (Jesus), having offered **one sacrifice for sins for all time**, SAT DOWN AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD, (13) waiting from that time onward UNTIL HIS ENEMIES BE MADE A FOOTSTOOL FOR HIS FEET. (14) For by one offering He has perfected for all time those who are sanctified (believers). (15) And the Holy Spirit also testifies to us; for after saying, (16) 'THIS IS THE COVENANT THAT I WILL MAKE WITH THEM AFTER THOSE DAYS, SAYS THE LORD: I WILL PUT MY LAWS UPON THEIR HEART, AND ON THEIR MIND, I WILL WRITE THEM.'



He then says, (17) 'AND THEIR SINS AND THEIR LAWLESS DEEDS I WILL REMEMBER NO MORE.' (18) Now where there is forgiveness of these things, there is no longer any offering for sin."



And our heavenly Father is watching over us to make sure we don't lose heart or get discouraged. And He's given us a precious gift to make sure that we don't. We find that in Hebrews also – right before the passage on His discipline: Heb 12:1-3 "Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us (Heb 11), let us also lay aside every burden and the sin which so easily tangles us up, and let us run with strength the race that is set before us, (2) **fixing our eyes on Jesus**, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, hating the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

(3) For **consider Him** who has endured such hostility by sinners against Himself, so that **you will not grow weary and lose heart.**"

Our heavenly Daddy is our great encourager: Isa 40:28-31 "Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth does not become weary or tired. His understanding is hard to explain. (29) He gives strength to the weary, and to him who lacks

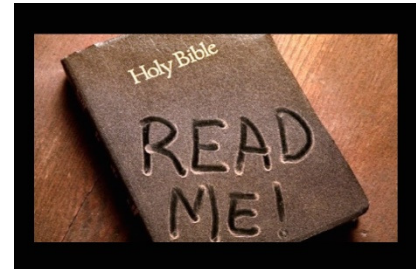
might He increases power. (30) Though young people grow weary and tired, and vigorous young men stumble badly, (31) yet those who wait for the Lord will gain new strength; they will mount up with wings like eagles, they will run and not get tired, they will walk and not become weary.”



How does our heavenly father parent us? He does it with GRACE and LOVE and by the power of the Holy Spirit inside us!! It doesn't get better than that, kids.

Col 3:12-21 “So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience; (13) bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you. (14) Beyond all these things put on love, which is the perfect bond of unity. (15) Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body; and be thankful. (16) Let the Word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God. (17) Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father (our heavenly Daddy).”

Until next time...stay in God's Word.



Close in prayer.

Prepared from Pastor John Farley's lesson on 3-6-2016 & 3-13-2016
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