

# THE TRUTH ABOUT DISCIPLINE

- ◆ Discipline is for everyone
- ◆ Discipline is personal, but it is best exercised in the midst of relationships
- ◆ Discipline is not intended to do away with laughter, but to bring joy

# Discipline Goes Beneath the Surface

- ⦿ Discipline fulfills a longing for God
- ⦿ Discipline frees us from the bondage of self-interest and fear
- ⦿ Discipline brings one face to face with the difficulty of exploring beyond the physical world.

# Transformation is God's Work

- ⦿ None of us plan to be the way we are
- ⦿ We are betrayed by our own selves – eyes, body language, hands
- ⦿ The will is reactive
- ⦿ The will is incapable of bringing about transformation

# Christ Has the Victory

- ⦿ The enemy of every Christian is Satan himself.
- ⦿ God's Word gives us power and victory over interruptions, temptations, excuses, criticism by others -- anything that hinder from giving attention to the Scriptures.

# Biblical Terms for Discipline

- ◎ Biblical terms for “discipline”
  - Chastening, correcting, instructing
  - Reproving, Warning

“training for a person to learn self-control in some area of life.”

# Two Sides of Discipline

- ⦿ God DISCIPLINES us so that we will be disciplined people.
- ⦿ We **become** disciplined by **being** disciplined by God and others
- ⦿ The outcome is self-control

# Discipline Brings Self-Control

- ⦿ We need boundaries!
- ⦿ The fruit of the Spirit
- ⦿ We recognize God's rule over our lives
- ⦿ Necessary for spiritual growth
- ⦿ The process is painful

# God's View of Discipline

- ⦿ Discipline is nurture
- ⦿ Discipline assists in loving and growing us up
- ⦿ Discipline is caring, not driven by anger or to be punitive
- ⦿ Discipline is related to suffering, but is not the same as suffering – uncomfortable to go through, with a goal of growth and self-control

# Discipline is Voluntary Action

- ⦿ A certain loss of control and self-control are necessary when you're being disciplined. It takes initiative and action – we allow it to happen – in our heart and allows our minds to transform through:
  - ⦿ Receptiveness
  - ⦿ Confession
  - ⦿ Repentance

# Others in the Process

- ◎ Involve yourself and be intentional about surrounding yourself with people who care enough to correct you when you stray.
  - David had Nathan: 2 Samuel 12:1-14
  - Peter had Paul: Galatians 2:11

# Conclusion

- God disciplines those He loves.
- A Lack of being disciplined is a missed opportunity to be loved.
- Stay in the correction process “correctly” to grow in love, faith and responsibility.
- You will help others to grow out of spiritual poverty

Peace!