

Discipline

1. God does discipline His own—Heb. 12:5. “My son, do not make light of the discipline of the Lord.” This is for the family of God.
2. Discipline is based on God’s character—Heb. 12:6. If parents love their children, they will discipline them. On the other hand, neglect of discipline is a sign of not loving and not properly caring for them.
3. Discipline does not mean loss of salvation—Gal. 3:26, Heb. 12:6. “For whom the Lord loveth He chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom He receiveth.”
4. Divine Discipline is *sometimes* removed by the believer being restored to fellowship (RTF)—I Cor. 11:31. Why *sometimes* and not *always*? Because when sin is admitted the sin is forgiven (I John 1:9), but the discipline can take one of three courses:
 - The discipline can be totally removed,
 - The discipline can remain at full intensity and be turned to blessing, or
 - The discipline can be diminished and be turned to blessing.
5. If suffering continues after a believer has confessed and is restored to fellowship, then the purpose of suffering is for blessing—Job 5:17. “Behold, happy is the man whom God correcteth, therefore despise not the chastening of the Almighty...”
6. All discipline to God’s children occurs while we are here on the earth and not after we leave this life—Rev. 21:4. “And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, or crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things have passed away.” There will be no discipline in heaven.
7. Discipline relates to the sins of the immediate past. If you are being disciplined, check your most recent sins rather than the ones of five or ten years ago. Even when a believer is backslidden and continues in sin for long periods God keeps His discipline current just as the believer keeps his rebellion current.
8. The greatest discipline for any believer is the Sin Unto Death (SUD)—I John 5:16. It is the result of prolonged rebellion and/or prolonged non-perception to the Word.
9. Compound discipline is an intense form of chastisement—Matt. 7:1-2. “Judge not, that ye be not judged. For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure you mete, it shall be measured to you again.”