

ENDURING HARDSHIP AS DISCIPLINE

Learning to be Obedient to God
ALL SAINTS CHURCH, NAKASERO
WEDNESDAY, 12TH AUGUST 2018

Theme: Run the race with endurance:

SERMON TOPIC: Enduring hardship as discipline and walking in obedience to God.

1. Relationship

- Father and son – we are being treated as sons (my beloved son)- accepted, loved, corner,
 - ✓ He formed me (created my inmost being, knit me together in my mothers womb),
 - ✓ He Knew me & gave me a personal identity (in my mothers womb he spoke my name)
 - ✓ He has a wonderful plan for me (Before you were born I appointed you as a prophet to the nations Jeremiah 1:4-5)
- Walk in His ways - God has a right way (***I want to walk with Jesus Christ all the days I live of this life on earth; to give to him complete control of body and of soul***), a blue print, a clear path,
 - ✓ Creator and maker of all things
 - ✓ In him all things hold together
 - ✓ He is the way the truth and the life

2. Training

- The process by which the behavior of one person is changed into conformity with the standard exemplified by another.

- A process in which one person takes another person in his behavior to the place where the first person already is.
- Goal is to learn to obey God and listen to him and be controlled by him and become like him “**Transformed into his likeness with an ever increasing glory**” (2 Corinthians 3:18)

3. What discipline does: (Outcome)

1. Gives Hope – Proverbs 19:18 Discipline your children, for in that there is hope; do not be a willing party to their death.
 2. Cleanses evil – Proverbs 20:30 -Blows and wounds scrub away evil, and beatings purge the inmost being.
 3. Drives out foolishness – Proverbs 22:15 -Folly is bound up in the heart of a child, but the rod of discipline will drive it far away.
 4. Helps learning, gives wisdom –Proverbs 29:15-A rod and a reprimand impart wisdom, but a child left undisciplined disgraces its mother.
 5. For physical training is of some value but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come. **(I Timothy 4:8) -**
 6. Later on, however, it produces a **harvest of righteousness and peace** for those who have been trained by it. **The Lord blesses is people with peace (Psalm 29:11)**
- End result? – that it may “**go well**” with you (prosper) and that you “**possess**” the land and “**live in it**”.
 - That we may share in his holiness **(But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do, for it is written Be holy as I am holy – I peter 1:15-16)**

4. Hardship:

No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful.
Difficult but necessary

5. Producing a godly child?

- (Psalm 24) Who may ascend the hill of the Lord/stand in his Holy place?
- Who may enter his temple?
- **2 Peter 3:11**- Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you be?

-Those who are in pure in heart and in thought - these may enter his temple -

- clean hands and a pure heart -
- does not lift up his soul to an idol or swear by what is false. -
- You ought to live **holy and godly lives** as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming.
- A godly child has values established in God - the author of all goodness. -
- Will receive blessing from the Lord and vindication (acquitted) from God his Savior Psalm 24 - whatever is right he will pay.
- God knows how to deliver the godly out of temptation. **2 Peter 2:9**

Discipline for A renewed MIND/EMOTIONS

"Do not conform any longer to the patterns of this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind - then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is - his good and perfect will."
Romans 12:2

"That your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight so that you may be able to discern what is best (choose the things that are excellent) " (Phil 1:9- 10)

Called to a life of purity –

- A mind that thinks holy thoughts –
- Cleansed of all ulterior motives of self- pure to see God –
- Bearing God's scrutiny instead of escaping His sight (Psalm 139:23-24) –
- Control passions and desires –
- A mind guided by God (Know God's will) –
- Prayer that we may make excellent choices in life. –
- Pure and blameless until the day of Christ –
- Filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ. –
- Give glory and praise to God –

Purity is determined by where your heart is (Prov 2:17) and setting your mind on things that are pure:

- ***“Set your mind on things above, not on earthly things”***
Colossians 3:2
- ***“Finally , brothers(sisters) whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable- if anything is excellent or praiseworthy, think about such things”***
Phillipians 4:8
- Pure in thought – saturated by the word of God

WALK IN OBEDIENCE

Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, "This is the way; walk in it." Isaiah 30:21

Be careful **to do** what the LORD your God has **commanded you**; do not turn aside to the right or to the left.

- Hear, Read, study, memorize the word – what has the Lord said?
- Obedience:

Song:

***“Follow, Follow - I will follow Jesus
Everywhere, everyday I will follow him
Follow, Follow, I will follow Jesus
Everywhere He leads me I will follow him”***

Song

***Trust and obey
For there is no other way
To be happy in Jesus
But to trust and obey***

Finally - strengthen your feeble arms and weak knees- run with perseverance, don't give up, be encouraged.

HEBREWS 12 4-13 - God Disciplines His Children

⁴In your struggle against sin, you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. ⁵And have you completely forgotten this word of encouragement that addresses you as a father addresses his son? It says,

“My son, do not make light of the Lord’s discipline, and do not lose heart when he rebukes you,⁶ because the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and he chastens (CORRECTS) everyone he accepts as his son.”^[a]

⁷**Endure hardship** as discipline; God is treating you as his children. For what children are not disciplined by their father? ⁸If you are not disciplined—and everyone undergoes discipline—then you are not legitimate, not true sons and daughters at all. ⁹Moreover, we have all had human fathers who disciplined us and we respected them for it. How much more should we submit to the Father of spirits and live! ¹⁰They disciplined us for a little while as they thought best; but **God disciplines us for our**

good, in order that we may share in his holiness. ¹¹ No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it.

¹² Therefore, strengthen your feeble arms and weak knees. ¹³ “Make level paths for your feet,”^[b] so that the lame may not be disabled, but rather healed.

Deuteronomy 5:33 - Walk in Obedience to God

³² So be careful to do what the LORD your God has commanded you; do not turn aside to the right or to the left. ³³ **Walk in obedience** to all that the LORD your God has commanded you, so that you may ***live and prosper*** and prolong your days in the land that you will ***possess***.

Hebrews 12: 1-3 - Run with perseverance

¹² Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us **run with perseverance the race** marked out for us, ² fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith who for the joy set before him, endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.³ Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.