

Embrace  
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# RE- FLECTING GOD

**05/10/15 - Wisdom Requires Discipline**

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Proverbs 3:11-24

We often confuse discipline and punishment. Discipline's purpose is training; punishment is a penalty for an offense. It is possible to have one without the other.

Since discipline involves training, what is God trying to teach us? Proverbs 3 tells us that we should seek wisdom and understanding. How? We know God loves us, so He never tells us to do something impossible. James 1:5 says, "If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God." Many passages tell us the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. Proverbs 2:6 reminds us, "For the LORD gives wisdom." So, this wisdom is ours for the asking!

Sounds great, huh? Oops! Read James 1:2-4. "Trials" may bring us to that wisdom! Hebrews 12:7-11 instructs us to endure hardship as discipline which will then produce righteousness and peace.

Just as we discipline our children to help them develop positive qualities, God disciplines us out of His love for us.

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