

Summit Woods Baptist Church
Sermon Study Equipping Class

Hebrews 12:3-11

Remember to begin your study early in the week so that you have time to really think (and keep thinking) about the passage without being rushed.

❖ Day 1

Read Hebrews 12:3-11

For these lessons, the sermon text is provided in a format that visually helps display the structure of the paragraph or section of text. The main verbs are underlined. Commands are double-underlined. Generally, the main indicative clauses remain to the left, and the other clauses are either directly underneath when they have equal priority to what comes before, or are tabbed to the right when the clause supports, develops, or draws a conclusion from a neighboring clause.

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

4 You have not yet resisted to the point of shedding blood in your striving against sin;

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 PUNISHED BY HIM;

6 FOR WHOM THE LORD LOVES HE DISCIPLINES,
AND HE PUNISHES EVERY SON WHOM HE ACCEPTS.”

7 It is for discipline that you endure; God deals with you as with sons;
for what son is there whom *his* father does not discipline?

8 But if you are without discipline,
of which all have become partakers,
then you are illegitimate children and not sons.

9 Furthermore, we had earthly fathers to discipline us, and we respected *them*;
shall we not much more be subject to the Father of ^[e]spirits, and live?

10 For they disciplined *us* for a short time as seemed best to them,
but He *disciplines us* for *our* good,
so that we may share His holiness.

11 For the moment, all discipline seems not to be pleasant, but painful;
yet to those who have been trained by it, afterward it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness.

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1. Read v's 1 and 2 of Hebrews 12. In one sentence summarize the context of these 2 verses leading up to our passage.
2. In V.3, why are we to "consider" Christ?
3. Read Acts 28:22, Col 1:24 and 2 Tim 3:12 in light of verse 3. How do these verses relate to the "hostility by sinners" that we see in this week's passage?
4. How should we then react when we receive pushback or some form of "hostility of sinners?"

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5. Read also Galatians 6:9. How do the pressures we face as believers compare to what Christ faced?
6. Read V4 of our passage. What does “to the point of shedding blood” refer to?
7. Read Acts 7:60 and Acts 12:1. In what city were Stephen and James martyred? What clue does this give us for the location of the saints receiving this letter to the Hebrews?

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❖ Day 2

Read Hebrews 12:3-11 again.

8. Read V 5 and 6. What Old Testament passage do these verses quote?
9. What are we reminded of in the Proverbs verses?
10. Read 2 Cor. 12:7-10 regarding Paul's "thorn in the flesh". What can we learn as we consider these verses in Corinthians along with our Hebrews passage?
11. What does it mean that it is for "discipline" that we endure in verse 7? What is God doing in the midst of suffering?

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- 12.** Re-read V's 7-11. The author uses the term "you" 4 times, then the word "we" 4 times, as well as the word "us". What does this tell us about who is included in Godly discipline?

❖ Day 3

Read Hebrews 12:3-11 again.

- 13.** Read verse 8 of our passage again. What does the context of this verse tell us about the meaning of "you are illegitimate children and not sons"?

- 14.** What is promised to those who are subject to the Father of spirits?"

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15. Read Psalm 119:165 along with verse 9 of our passage. How might the Psalm passage help us understand “be subject... and live” in verse 9?

16. In light of this passage, what does it look like to “be subject” to God?

17. Re-read V 10 of our passage. How should we understand sharing in “His holiness”? Read 2 Peter 1:4 for further insight.

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18. How does discipline feel in the moment? But what does this passage tell us that such discipline eventually produces in us?

19. Re-read Hebrews 12:3-11. How have you been “trained by” discipline in your life? How has this brought you the peaceful fruit of righteousness?

In preparation for Sunday, pray that God would help you to see your present suffering as discipline which leads to righteousness. Pray that, by the Spirit, you would have eyes to see your circumstances as an opportunity for training and growth in holiness. Thank God for the evidence of His saving love in you, in the fact that you are disciplined and trained in this way, not left to a comfortable life on the road to hell.