

The Fear of the Lord



Godly Discipline

Parental Discipline



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I. What are we to Fear: Abuse, or Position & Power?

The true Fear of the Lord was never designed or intended to drive us away from God. It is intended to draw us to him.

We live in a society that is riddled with abuse. This obviously causes fear. THAT IS NOT WHAT IS BEING TALKED ABOUT BY THE PHRASE - 'FEAR OF THE LORD'. However, the feelings of Fearing the Lord are defined as a genuine fear. (They feel much like other areas in our lives where we have a PROFOUND REVERENCE, RESPECT, AND GODLY AWE & FEAR.) THIS IS WHY IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT THE REALM OF THE 'TRUE FEAR OF THE LORD' BE SEPARATED FROM THE REALMS OF ABUSE IN OUR THINKING AND UNDERSTANDING!!!! GOD DOES NOT ABUSE PEOPLE!!!! Abuse deals with picking on and mistreating the innocent and helpless. It also deals with De-valuing, Shaming, Belittling, including Spiritual - Mental - Emotional - and Physical Injury. It leaves the person with NO WAY OUT. Nothing can ever really be done to stop the Abuse. No matter how hard one may try, an abuser will never allow a true finish and closing to much of anything. The abuse's goal is to gain control over the victim via any means. God already has control. He has no need to abuse.

God has finish lines. And they are never moved. They always stay the same. When God forgives, it will never be remembered again. When God makes a Promise, he never goes back on it, or adds any requirements to it. God has finish lines. However, God does require a reckoning, and accounting of our lives. He will judge what we've done and make decisions accordingly. That is not abuse. It's judgment.

Judgment deals with giving an individual the consequences for the choices they have made. (Romans 6:23 - 'The wages of sin is death.') (Or on the other side of the coin of judgment you have 'But the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. - Romans 6:23) Jesus will preside over both sides of judgment. In some people it will culminate in eternal separation from God in the Lake of Fire. For others it will culminate in Eternal Life in Heaven. BOTH ARE A RESULT OF JUDGMENT. The Believer will be judged as well as the Unbeliever. However, there will be drastically different outcomes to the judgment. One will be ETERNAL LIFE and the other will be ETERNAL DEATH.

Christ's judgment will be fair, righteous, impartial, indiscriminate, without favoritism, honest, etc. Abusers care little about any of these qualities. They simply want their way/control. The true issue with judgment is Sin. Scripture makes it very clear that God will deal with SIN. It is judged, condemned and will be destroyed. Sin will not be allowed to persist in the human race and continue to destroy God's creation. God has promised that he will put an end to it. Here's where the problem comes in. You see, human beings were never the ones who were suppose to be judged along with sin. The Eternal Lake of Fire was created for the Devil and his angels - not humans. (Matthew 25:41) But when humans make the choice to live in sin, and do what the Demonic realm does, then we also will be judged with sin, and the devil and his angels. That is not Abuse. That is clearing creation of Sin and putting an end to it. In order to come out on the good side of judgment, we need to strive to be free from serving sin. As Christians, sin is not our master. Jesus is our Master. We need to live life for his will and

desires. That takes care of any problems that could arise from any judgment from God. I say all that to say this, the main issues involved with the 'Fear of the Lord' are: 'POSITION' & 'POWER'. Not abuse. (Power speaks of 'Authority' and 'Ability'. They are the original Greek words translated 'Power' in the New Testament.) Abuse actually comes from the Lack of Authority. We try to get the response we're wanting from someone/something, and when it doesn't respond to us because our Position and Power are not recognized, we Become Angry and Force That Controlled Response No Matter What It May Take. That is Abuse. It's our way of gaining control and forcing our way. God does not have to gain control or force his way. He is totally in control and everything will ultimately go his way because HE IS GOD!!! (That's part of what it means to be God)

Our job is to recognize his 'Position & Authority' as the creator of this world with such a reverence and awe that it terrifies us to even think we could end up on the wrong side of the coming judgment. That is the FEAR OF THE LORD.

Everything will ultimately be judged according to the standard he has decided. He created the whole thing, and he has the right to demand an accounting from all creation. That includes People. (Hebrews 10:26-31; II Corinthians 5:10; I Corinthians 3:12-15, 4:5; Revelation 20:11-15; II Peter 3:3-15; Romans 14:10-12; Matthew 7:15-27; Matthew 25:31-46; Etc.) We sincerely need to realize that God is not an abuser. He is a loving God who gave all he had to make a way for our salvation. He wants you in Heaven more than you want to be there. THAT DOESN'T SOUND LIKE ABUSE TO ME!!!

II. Layman's Definition of the 'Fear of the Lord'.

The Fear of the Lord is recognizing God's Position and Power. (Authority & Ability) Realizing that as the originator and creator of everything, he has the 'Position & Power' to choose how it will operate. And he can demand an accounting of all creation as to whether it obeyed him or not!!! This will happen at judgment. FEARING GOD is realizing that by our attitudes, decisions, and choices, we could end up in Eternal Damnation. A second aspect of the Fear of the Lord is that if we are not doing what he wants us to do, he will literally fight against the success of our plans. It doesn't matter if the created likes that, agrees with it, wants it, or not. The end result is that God will judge all of creation according to his standards. (Acts 10:38, 42-43; 17:31; Romans 2:16; II Timothy 4:1, 8; I Peter 1:17, 2:23; II Peter 2:4, 9) Recognizing that, we'd do well (Knowledge - Proverbs 1:7; and Wisdom - Proverbs 9:10) to do what God is asking of us with Extreme Reverence and Respect. Because God has the Position and Power to BLESS those who seek after Righteousness. He also has the Position and Power to DESTROY SIN. If we want to be in a horrible position, all we need to do is hang on to the sin in our lives, and refuse to let it go. That will guarantee the wrong outcome for us because of the sin we're hanging on to. Recognizing that and submitting ourselves to

God and determining to live this life God's way - if for no other reason, than the coming judgment of the world - is the 'Fear of the Lord'.

The awesome part is, since GOD IS NOT ABUSIVE, But he is a God of Love. Even though he didn't have to, he has made a way for us to get free from sin and get into his good graces. (John 3:16-18, 1:12; Romans 6:23, 10:9-13; Ephesians 2:8-10; I John 1:9) That way we won't have to be judged with the sin as a sinner. (Remember: Matthew 10:28)

III. Hebrew & Greek Definitions of Fear.

OLD TESTAMENT: *There are numerous Hebrew words translated into the KJV as the word 'Fear'. Listed here are the ones that refer to having the 'Fear of the Lord/God'. #3372 - #3374 and #5399 are the primary ones used. Below are listed: (1) Strong's Cross Reference number and Definitions, (2) Brown-Driver-Brigg's Definitions, (3) The Original Hebrew Word, (4) The Root Words, their Cross Reference Numbers, and their Definitions. (Where Applicable)*

Title: Strong's Hebrew and Greek Dictionaries

[H1481 \(Used One Time: Psalms 22:23\)](#)

גור

gûr goor

A primitive root; properly to *turn* aside from the road (for a lodging or any other purpose), that is, *sojourn* (as a guest); also to *shrink, fear* (as in a *strange* place); also to *gather* for hostility (as *afraid*):—abide, assemble, be afraid, dwell, fear, gather (together), inhabitant, remain, sojourn, stand in awe, (be) stranger, X surely.

Title: Brown-Driver-Briggs' Hebrew Definitions

[H1481 \(Used One Time: Psalms 22:23\)](#)

גור

gûr

BDB Definition:

1) to sojourn, abide, dwell in, dwell with, remain, inhabit, be a stranger, be continuing, surely

1a) ([Qal](#))

1a1) to sojourn, dwell for a time

1a2) to abide, stay, temporarily dwell

1b) ([Hithpolel](#))

1b1) to seek hospitality with

- 1b2) to assemble oneself
- 2) to stir up trouble, strife, quarrel, gather together
- 2a) ([Qal](#))
- 2a1) to stir up strife
- 2a2) to quarrel
- 2b) ([Hithpolel](#)) to excite oneself
- 3) to dread, fear, stand in awe, be afraid
- 3a) ([Qal](#))
- 3a1) to fear, be afraid
- 3a2) to be in awe, stand in awe

Title: Brown-Driver-Briggs' Hebrew Definitions

[H3372](#)

יָרֵא yârê'

BDB Definition:

- 1) to fear, revere, be afraid
- 1a) ([Qal](#))
- 1a1) to fear, be afraid
- 1a2) to stand in awe of, be awed
- 1a3) to fear, reverence, honour, respect
- 1b) ([Niphal](#))
- 1b1) to be fearful, be dreadful, be feared
- 1b2) to cause astonishment and awe, be held in awe
- 1b3) to inspire reverence or godly fear or awe
- 1c) ([Piel](#)) to make afraid, terrify
- 2) (TWOT) to shoot, pour

Title: Strong's Hebrew and Greek Dictionaries

[H3372](#)

יָרֵא

yârê'

yaw-ray'

A primitive root; to *fear*; morally to *revere*; causatively to *frighten*:—affright, be (make) afraid, dread (-ful), (put in) fear (-ful, -fully, -ing). (be had in) reverence (-end), X see, terrible (act, -ness, thing)

Title: Strong's Hebrew and Greek Dictionaries

H3373

יָרֵא

yârê'

yaw-ray'

From H3372 ; *fearing*; morally *reverent*:—afraid, fear (-ful).

Title: Brown-Driver-Briggs' Hebrew Definitions

H3373

יָרֵא

yârê'

BDB Definition:

1) fearing, reverent, afraid

Title: Strong's Hebrew and Greek Dictionaries

H3374

יִרְאָה

yir'âh

yir-aw'

Feminine of H3373 ; *fear* (also used as infinitive); morally *reverence*:— X dreadful, X exceedingly, fear (-fulness).

Title: Brown-Driver-Briggs' Hebrew Definitions

H3374

יִרְאָה

yir'âh

BDB Definition:

1) fear, terror, fearing

1a) fear, terror

1b) awesome or terrifying thing (object causing fear)

1c) fear (of God), respect, reverence, piety

1d) revered

Title: Strong's Hebrew and Greek Dictionaries

H4172 (Used 4 times: Psalms 76:11; Isaiah 8:13; Malachi 1:6, 2:5)

מורה מרא מורא

môrâ' môrâ' môrâh

mo-raw', mo-raw', mo-raw'

From **H3372** ; *fear*; by implication a *fearful* thing or deed:—dread, (that ought to be) fear (-ed), terribleness, terror.

Title: Brown-Driver-Briggs' Hebrew Definitions

H4172

מורה / מרא / מורא

môrâ' / môrâ' / môrâh

BDB Definition:

- 1) fear, reverence, terror
- 1a) fear, terror
- 1b) reverence
- 1c) object of reverence
- 1d) awe-inspiring spectacle or deed

Title: Strong's Hebrew and Greek Dictionaries

H6206 (Used 2 times: Psalms 89:7; Isaiah 29:23)

ערץ

'ârats

aw-rats'

A primitive root; to *awe* or (intransitively) to *dread*; hence to *harass*:—be affrighted (afraid, dread, feared, terrified), break, dread, fear, oppress, prevail, shake terribly.

Title: Brown-Driver-Briggs' Hebrew Definitions

H6206 (Used 2 times: Psalms 89:7; Isaiah 29:23)

ערץ

'ârats

BDB Definition:

- 1) to tremble, dread, fear, oppress, prevail, break, be terrified, cause to tremble
- 1a) (Qal)
- 1a1) to cause to tremble, terrify

1b2) to tremble, feel dread

1b) ([Niphal](#)) to be awesome, be terrible

1c) ([Hiphil](#))

1c1) to regard or treat with awe, regard or treat as awful

1c2) to inspire with awe, terrify

Title: Strong's Hebrew and Greek Dictionaries

[H6342](#)

פחד

pâchad

paw-khad'

A primitive root; to *be startled* (by a sudden alarm); hence to *fear* in general:—be afraid, stand in awe, (be in) fear, make to shake.

Title: Brown-Driver-Briggs' Hebrew Definitions

[H6342](#)

פחד

pâchad

BDB Definition:

1) to fear, tremble, revere, dread, be in awe or dread

1a) ([Qal](#))

1a1) to be in dread

1a2) to be in awe

1b) ([Piel](#)) to be in great dread

1c) ([Hiphil](#)) to cause to dread

Title: Brown-Driver-Briggs' Hebrew Definitions

[H6343](#)

פחד

pachad

BDB Definition:

1) terror, dread

1a) dread

1b) object of dread

Title: Strong's Hebrew and Greek Dictionaries

H6343

פחד

pachad

pakh'-ad

From H6342 ; a (sudden) alarm (properly the object feared, by implication the feeling):—dread (-ful), fear, (thing) great [fear, -ly feared], terror.

Title: Strong's Hebrew and Greek Dictionaries

H6345 (Used 1 time: Jeremiah 2:19)

פחדה

pachdâh

pakh-daw'

Feminine of H6343 ; *alarm* (that is, *awe*):—fear.

Title: Brown-Driver-Briggs' Hebrew Definitions

H6345

פחדה

pachdâh

BDB Definition:

1) dread, fear, awe, religious awe

NEW TESTAMENT: *The Greek also has various words translated “Fear” in the KJV. The predominate words used are #5399 and #5401. The listing is the same as above with the exceptions: (1) Brown-Driver-Brigg’s is not used, (2) Thayer’s Greek-English Lexicon is used.*

Title: Strong's Hebrew and Greek Dictionaries

G2124 (Used 2 times: Hebrews 5:7-8, 12:28)

εὐλάβεια

eulabeia

yoo-lab'-i-ah

From G2126 ; properly *caution*, that is, (religiously) *reverence* (*piety*); by implication *dread* (concretely):—fear (-ed).

Title: Thayer's Greek Definitions

G2124

εὐλάβεια

eulabeia

Thayer Definition:

- 1) caution, circumspection, discretion
 - 1a) avoidance
 - 1b) a reasonable shunning
- 2) reverence, veneration
 - 2a) reverence toward God, godly fear, piety
- 3) fear anxiety, dread

Title: Strong's Hebrew and Greek Dictionaries

G2126

εὐλαβής

eulabēs

yoo-lab-ace'

From G2095 and G2983 ; *taking well (carefully)*, that is, *circumspect* (religiously, *pious*):—devout.

Title: Thayer's Greek Definitions

G2126

εὐλαβής

eulabēs

Thayer Definition:

- 1) taking hold well
 - 1a) carefully and surely
 - 1b) cautiously
- 2) reverencing God, pious, religious

Title: Strong's Hebrew and Greek Dictionaries

G2095

εὖ

eu *yoo*

Neuter of a primary word εὖς *eus* (*good*); (adverbially) *well*:—good, well (done).

Title: Thayer's Greek Definitions

G2095

εὖ - eu

Thayer Definition:

- 1) to be well off, fare well, prosper
- 2) acting well

Title: Thayer's Greek Definitions

G2983

λαμβάνω - lambanō

Thayer Definition:

- 1) to take
 - 1a) to take with the hand, lay hold of, any person or thing in order to use it
 - 1a1) to take up a thing to be carried
 - 1a2) to take upon one's self
 - 1b) to take in order to carry away
 - 1b1) without the notion of violence, i.e. to remove, take away
 - 1c) to take what is one's own, to take to one's self, to make one's own
 - 1c1) to claim, procure, for one's self
 - 1c1a) to associate with one's self as companion, attendant
 - 1c2) of that which when taken is not let go, to seize, to lay hold of, apprehend
 - 1c3) to take by craft (our catch, used of hunters, fisherman, etc.), to circumvent one by fraud
 - 1c4) to take to one's self, lay hold upon, take possession of, i.e. to appropriate to one's self
 - 1c5) catch at, reach after, strive to obtain
 - 1c6) to take a thing due, to collect, gather (tribute)
 - 1d) to take
 - 1d1) to admit, receive
 - 1d2) to receive what is offered
 - 1d3) not to refuse or reject
 - 1d4) to receive a person, give him access to one's self
 - 1d4a) to regard any one's power, rank, external circumstances, and on that account to do some injustice or neglect something
 - 1e) to take, to choose, select
 - 1f) to take beginning, to prove anything, to make a trial of, to experience
 - 2) to receive (what is given), to gain, get, obtain, to get back

Title: Thayer's Greek Definitions

G5399

φοβέω

phobeō

Thayer Definition:

- 1) to put to flight by terrifying (to scare away)
- 1a) to put to flight, to flee
- 1b) to fear, be afraid
- 1b1) to be struck with fear, to be seized with alarm
- 1b1a) of those startled by strange sights or occurrences
- 1b1b) of those struck with amazement
- 1b2) to fear, be afraid of one
- 1b3) to fear (i.e. hesitate) to do something (for fear of harm)
- 1c) to reverence, venerate, to treat with deference or reverential obedience

Title: Strong's Hebrew and Greek Dictionaries

G5399

φοβέω phobeō *fob-eh'-o*

From G5401 ; to *frighten*, that is, (passively) to *be alarmed*; by analogy to *be in awe of*, that is, *revere*:—be (+ sore) afraid, fear (exceedingly), reverence.

Title: Strong's Hebrew and Greek Dictionaries

G5401

φόβος phobos *fob'-os*

From a primary φέβομαι phebomai (to *be put in fear*); *alarm* or *fright*:—be afraid, + exceedingly, fear, terror.

Title: Thayer's Greek Definitions

G5401

φόβος

phobos

Thayer Definition:

- 1) fear, dread, terror
- 1a) that which strikes terror
- 2) reverence for one's husband

Please Note: The Handout: “Fear Not” is on Page 38

IV. Jesus and ‘The Fear of the Lord’.

“A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit. The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him - the spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of knowledge and of the Fear of the Lord - and he will delight in the Fear of the Lord. He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, or decide by what he hears with his ears; but with righteousness he will judge the needy, with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth.”

Isaiah 11:1-4

“In the days of His flesh (Jesus) offered up definite, special petitions (for that which He not only wanted but needed) and supplications with strong crying and tears to Him Who was (always) able to save Him (out) from death, and He was heard because of His reverence toward God (His godly fear, His piety, in that He shrank from the horrors of separation from the bright presence of the Father). Although He was a Son, He learned (active, special) obedience through what He suffered and, (his completed experience) making Him perfectly (equipped), He became the Author and Source of eternal salvation to all those who give heed and obey Him.”

Hebrews 7-9 (AMP)

Hebrews 5:7 - KJV - “...in that he feared;”

V. Why Should We ‘Fear The Lord’?

A. Because We’re Commanded to:

	<i>Deuteronomy 6:13, 8:6</i>	<i>I Chronicles 16:30</i>
	<i>Psalms 33:8</i>	<i>Matthew 10:28</i>
<i>Luke 1:50</i>	<i>Romans 11:20</i>	<i>Philippians 2:12</i>
<i>I Peter 1:17, 2:17</i>		<i>Hebrews 12:28</i>
	<i>Revelation 14:7</i>	

B. There are Many Benefits and Promises tied to our Fearing the Lord: (See page 17)

C. What ‘Fearing the Lord’ will do for us?

There are many benefits/blessings that God places into our lives as a result of fearing him. (See page 18) Here’s another way to understand it. The ‘Fear of the Lord’ gives us first of all a standard to measure our thinking - attitudes - choices - motivations - and behaviors against. By always comparing to what God thinks and desires in comparison to what we may think is right and correct, we can get a better reading on

how we're really doing. (John 5:30; II Corinthians 5:1-10; Galatians 1:10; Colossians 1:10; I Thessalonians 4:1ff; II Timothy 4:2; John 1:1,14) That insures that we won't get the wrong outcome at the future judgment.

Secondly, it is what gives us the ability to judge - discern - and see the truth clearly. (Again, by always comparing to how God would judge a situation - discern its content - and see what is the truth.) (Isaiah 11:1-4; John 7:24, 8:15-16)

And thirdly, it helps us see what's real in regard to our living free from sin. (Matthew 10:28)

D. So we aren't destroyed with the unbeliever: Hebrews 10:19-39. The Fear of the Lord takes the guess work out of where we'll spend our eternity. If that was the only thing it did, THAT WOULD BE ENOUGH.

VI. The 'Fear of the Lord' is Learned.

THE SCRIPTURE TALK ABOUT 'THE FEAR OF THE LORD' BEING TAUGHT AND LEARNED. BELOW ARE SOME OF THE SCRIPTURES THAT DEAL WITH THAT.

Remember: The 'Fear of the Lord' is the beginning of Wisdom and Knowledge. (Prov. 1:7, 9:10)

Deuteronomy 4:10 - The hearing of God's word teaches us to Fear the Lord.

" 10:12 - Fearing God and living for him righteously are tied together.

" 14:23 - Handling the Tithe correctly helps us learn how to Fear the Lord.

" 17:18-20 - Reading the word on a daily basis teaches us to Fear the Lord.

" 31:10-13 - Listening to the word being read in a congregational setting so that there is a group holding each other accountable to do it, helps instill the Fear of the Lord.

Joshua 4:24 - God displays his power so that people will learn to Fear Him.

I Samuel 11:7 - The threat of repercussion for not fearing God helps to instill the Fear of God.

I Kings 8:39-43 - God dealing with men individually, or on an individual basis and answering their prayers helps them learn to Fear the Lord. (II Chronicles 6:31, 33)

II Kings 17:28-41 - Teaching people how to Fear the Lord. Worship Him - Bow Down to Him - Offer Sacrifices - Keep His Word & Commands - Do Not Worship other Gods - Don't Forget the Covenant - Worship Him.

II Chronicles 20:29 - The Fear of the Lord comes on people who hear the things that God does. (Psalms 40:1-3)

Psalms 34:11-14 - Children are taught how to Fear the Lord. Keep Your Tongue from Evil - Don't Lie - Turn From Evil - Do Good - Seek & Pursue Peace.

Psalms 67:6 - Others will learn to Fear the Lord as they see us being Blessed.

Psalms 86:11 - AN UNDIVIDED HEART IS NECESSARY TO LEARN HOW TO FEAR THE LORD. (Jeremiah 32:39-40)

Proverbs 2:1-5 - Steps necessary to learn how to Fear the Lord. Listen to your parents if they are Godly - Remember the Word of God they give to you - Learn to listen to Wisdom - Seek to Understand from your Heart - Ask God for Insight - Ask God for Understanding - Seek for what God thinks like, with the same intensity as if you were looking for silver - Search for what God thinks like, as if you were searching for a hidden Treasure - Then you will understand the Fear of the Lord.

Isaiah 25:2-3 - God's judgment brings the Fear of the Lord.

Isaiah 29:22-24 - The blessings of God in restoration are to instill the Fear of the Lord.

Hosea 3:1-5 - When God brings people back after they had become a spiritual prostitute, it causes the Fear of the Lord.

Zephaniah 3:7-20 - Judgment comes when there is no Fear of the Lord. God does this in an effort to teach man to Fear Him, and bring him back into relationship.

Luke 5:26 - Seeing miracles bring the Fear of the Lord.

Acts 19:17-20 - The supernatural (demons cast out) brings the Fear of the Lord and holiness.

VII. Characteristics of the Fear of the Lord.

BELOW IS A LISTING OF SCRIPTURES THAT SHOW US IF WE HAVE THE FEAR OF THE LORD. THESE SCRIPTURES GIVE SOME INSIGHT TO WHAT THE FEAR OF THE LORD IS ALL ABOUT.

Leviticus 19:14 - When we wrong other people, it is because we do not Fear the Lord. (I think all of the 19th chapter is dealing with characteristics of Fearing the Lord. The thing that ties the whole chapter together is the phrase: "I am the Lord". The whole chapter makes it clear that we are to live a certain way because He is the Lord. V. 14 ties that directly to the Fear of the Lord.)

- PLEASE NOTE: Some of the things mentioned are peculiar to the Old Covenant, and they are not brought into the New Covenant. Disregard those items.

Leviticus 25:13-18 - Do not take advantage of another person.

Leviticus 25:35-43 - Help the poor. Do not receive interest in money borrowed to them, and do not sell food to them at a profit. Do not make the poor or their families your slaves. Don't rule over the poor ruthlessly.

- Please note how Money, Riches, and Possessions - at another's expense - reveal whether the Fear of the Lord is in us or not.

- Again I feel the whole chapter deals with things God wants us to do and not to do because we Fear Him.

Deuteronomy 10:12 - Steps to Fearing the Lord. Walk in his ways - Love him - Serve him with your whole heart and soul - Obey his word.

“ 10:20 - Serve God, and hold tightly to him. (The last part of this verse did not come through the cross into the New Testament. - Matt. 5:33-37)

“ 13:4 - Follow God, Keep his commands, Serve Him, Obey Him, Hold tightly to him.

Joshua 24:14 - Serve him with faithfulness. Get rid of all other gods.

I Samuel 12:14-15 - Serve and Obey him. Do not rebel against his commands. (If you do this it will be good. If you don't, God's hand will be against you)

“ 12:24 - Serve him faithfully with all your heart. Consider the great things he's done for you.

II Kings 17:28-41 - Do not worship God, AND other gods. The unsaved worship other gods; we must break from their customs. You must adhere to the word and the commands. We are not to 'Fear' any other gods. Don't bow down to them. Don't serve them. Don't sacrifice to them. But do these things to the true God. Do not forget the covenant God made with us.

II Chronicles 19:7 - When we make judgment calls, we must do it carefully. We must not be involved with injustice, partiality, or bribery.

Nehemiah 5:1-13 - Do not take advantage of the poor. Specifically by charging them interest, and/or usury. (v. 9-10)

“ 5:15 - Do not Lord your authority over others.

Job 28:28 - “The Fear of the Lord, that is Wisdom....”

Psalms 2:11-12 - "Serve the Lord with fear and rejoice with trembling. Kiss the Son, lest he be angry and you be destroyed in your way, for his wrath can flare up in a moment. Blessed are all who take refuge in him."

Psalms 36:1-4 - When we flatter ourselves, or have such a high opinion of ourselves that we cannot detect or hate our own sin; when our speech is wicked and deceitful; when we no longer seek after wisdom and try to do good; when we lay awake and think about and plan evil, and commit ourselves to following through on it and don't reject the thoughts and thinking; --- WHEN WE DO THESE TYPES OF THINGS, WE DON'T FEAR THE LORD. (v 1b)

Psalms 55:19 - When we don't change our ways, We Don't Fear The Lord.

Psalms 119:120 - When our flesh trembles in fear of him and we stand in awe of his laws/word, Then We Fear The Lord.

Psalms 135:20 - If we Fear Him, we will praise him.

Proverbs 1:29 - Wisdom will laugh at us and watch us destroyed for not Fearing The Lord.

*Proverbs 2:1-5 - To understand the Fear of the Lord and to find the Knowledge of God we must: Accept the words and store up the commands of Godly parents.
: Listen to wisdom and try to understand from our hearts.
: Call our for insight and understanding and search for it like we'd search for silver or hidden treasure.*

Proverbs 3:7 - Don't consider yourself to be too wise. Stay away from evil.

Proverbs 8:13 - To Fear the Lord is to Hate Evil.

Proverbs 15:33 - Are you growing in Wisdom? If yes, you're learning it from the Fear of the Lord.

Proverbs 23:17 - Don't envy sinners, but be zealous for what God wants.

Jeremiah 5:18-31 - When we don't Fear the Lord, we are stubborn and rebellious. We turn aside and away from what we know God would want.

Malachi 1:6 - We are to Fear him like a Master.

Malachi 2:5-6 - To live in the covenant of life and peace demands Fear of God, and standing in the awe of God. If we are doing that we will have true instruction in our mouths, and nothing false is found on our lips. We walk with God in peace and uprightness/righteously, and we help turn people from sin.

Malachi 3:5 - Sorcerers, adulterers, false witnesses/swearers, those who steal the laborers wages, when we make life difficult for widows and the fatherless, when we don't allow outsiders into the group and deny their rights - THESE PEOPLE DON'T FEAR THE LORD.

Romans 3:9-18 - When we have no Fear of God we - do not do what is right.

- don't endeavor to understand.

- don't seek God.

- But rather we turn away from the things of God, and don't do good. Death and deceit are in our mouths and on our lips. We kill others with our lips. We continually speak curses and bitterness. Murder. Other peoples Destruction and Misery mark where we have been. We don't know how to live in peace.

II Corinthians 7:1 - To Fear God is to purify ourselves from all forms of sin and mature in holiness.

Ephesians 5:21-6:9 - All submission in relationships is to be done out of the Fear of God. Such as: Wives to Husbands; Husbands to Christ; Children to Parents; Slaves (employees) to Masters (Employers).

Philippians 2:12-15 - Fear of the Lord produces Obedience in our Salvation. Do everything without complaining and arguing.

Hebrews 11:7 - Noah obeyed and build the ark out of the Fear of the Lord.

Psalms 86:11 & Jeremiah 32:39-40 >>> An Undivided Heart/Singleness of Heart is Necessary to 'Fearing the Lord'.

VIII. Benefits of Fearing of the Lord.

Proverbs 1:7 - "The Fear of the Lord is the Beginning of Knowledge."

Proverbs 9:10 - "The Fear of the Lord is the Beginning of Wisdom." (Psalms 111:10)

The true Fear of the Lord was never designed or intended to drive us away from God. It is intended to draw us to him.

BELOW IS A LISTING OF THE THINGS THE FEAR OF THE LORD DOES FOR US.

Exodus 18:21 - It makes leaders and honest people out of us.

Exodus 20:20 - It keeps us from sinning.

Deuteronomy 5:29 - It causes things to go well with us and our children.

“ 6:2 - *It brings joy into our lives.*

“ 6:24 - *It makes us prosper and keeps us alive.*

Psalms 15:4 - If we honor those who Fear the Lord, we will never be moved or shaken.

“ 25:14 - *The Lord is with those who Fear Him.*

“ 31:19 - *Goodness is given to those who Fear Him.*

“ 34:7 - *Angels protect those who Fear Him.*

“ 34:9 - *Those who Fear Him Lack Nothing.*

“ 60:4 - *The Lord protects those who Fear Him.*

“ 61:5 - *The heritage of the Lord follows us who Fear Him. (Isaiah 54:16-17)*

“ 103:11 - *It causes the Lord to have mercy toward us.*

“ 103:13 - *God has compassion on those who Fear Him.*

“ 103:17 - *It causes his Love to be on us Forever.*

“ 111:5 - *The Lord provides food for those who Fear Him.*

“ 115:11 - *He helps and shields those who Fear Him.*

“ 115:13 - *He blesses and helps those who Fear Him.*

“ 145:19 - *He fulfills the desires of and saves those who Fear Him.*

“ 147:11 - *He delights in those who Fear Him.*

Proverbs 10:27 - It adds length to life.

“ 14:26 - *It causes us to have a secure fortress, and that fortress will be a refuge for our children.*

“ 14:27 - *It's a fountain of life and turns us from the snares of death.*

“ 16:6 - *Through it we avoid evil.*

“ 19:23 - *It leads to life and causes us to rest content and untouched by trouble.*

“ 22:4 - *Humility and Fear of the Lord bring wealth, honor, and life.*

Jeremiah 2:19 - We are destroyed by our own life when we don't Fear Him.

“ 5:24-25 - *Without it, we will lose the assurance of and reception of continual prosperity, and the good that is to come into our lives.*

“ 26:19 - *Disaster is held back because of it.*

Malachi 4:2 - The Lord will bring healing into our lives and we will run and leap with health.

Matthew 10:28 - It can keep us out of hell. (luke 12:4-5)

Luke 1:50 - His mercy is on those who Fear Him. From generation to generation.

“ 23:40 - *The thief on the cross got saved because he had Fear of God.*

Acts 2:43 - God moves in signs and wonders when people corporately Fear Him.

“ 9:31 - It caused the New Testament church to prosper.

Romans 11:20 - Without it, we can lose our salvation.

I Peter 2:17 - Through it, we show God proper respect.

Revelation 11:18 - Those who Fear Him will be Rewarded.

IX. The Fear of the Lord. God's & Parental Discipline.

*Leviticus 19:3 - Children must fear their parents. The only 2 things believers are to fear are
(1) God, (2) Our Parents.*

Everything in God's Kingdom runs in family. God is the Father. Jesus is the son. We are the children, and part of his family. He has made us heirs with our older brother - Jesus. Heaven is considered our home. (On and on the list can go.) If Yaweh/Jehovah is our Father, and we're suppose to have Fear of Him, then it would stand to reason that picture needs to carry through in a earthly family also. If that picture (Fear of the Lord) doesn't carry through into the earthly family, the family will go dysfunctional. The same way that if we don't have a good Healthy Fear of God, our spiritual life will go dysfunctional.

In this section, we are going to look at Discipline and how it works in with the Fear of the Lord. THIS IS A VERY MISUNDERSTOOD SUBJECT FOR THE COMMON CHRISTIAN. HOPEFULLY THIS WILL GIVE SOME INSIGHT ON IT.

For some reason, it is very difficult for the average christian to understand how God can discipline his children without somehow being evil or be an abuser. I'm going to try to make it easy to understand. If we will simply separate the 'Character' and 'Purpose' of God and the Devil, we will have our answer. Consider this question, how can a parent discipline a child without abusing them? Again if you separate the 'Character' and 'Purpose' of a parent who Disciplines, verses a parent who Abuses - the difference can be easily seen.

The basic difference that must be understood and remembered is that while we are on this earth, God's 'Character' is expressed in his 'Purpose' for us as human beings. You can sum it up in one word: 'REDEMPTION'. (John 10:10 - "I am come that they might have life, and have it more abundantly.")

Satan's 'Character' is expressed in his 'Purpose' for us as human beings as: 'DESTRUCTIVE'. (John 10:10 - "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy".)

THERE ARE THE KEY FACTORS THAT SEPARATE GOD AND THE DEVIL IN ONE SIMPLE BIBLE VERSE!!! They are also the Key Factors that separate 'Discipline' from 'Abuse'.

When God disciplines us, it is to bring us back into righteousness, life, freedom, forgiveness, restoration, health, prosperity, eternal life, etc. It Is A Redemptive Work!!!

When the Devil gets loose to work in our life, his goal is to bring death, destruction, hell, sickness, poverty, bondage, disease, eternal death, etc. It Is A Destructive Work!!!

*God's Kingdom is the Kingdom of Light. Satan's Kingdom is the Kingdom of Darkness. They do not share anything in common!!! **THEY DO NOT DO EACH OTHER'S WORK!!!** If they were to switch roles from time to time, and the Devil would do some good for people, and God would do some bad for people - They would both destroy their own Kingdoms. (Matthew 12:22-30) They must stay consistent in Light or Darkness **ALL OF THE TIME**. That's why it says there is absolutely no change with God or His Character. (Hebrews 13:8; James 1:17) God is consistent, predictable, dependable, does not lie, etc. That is the consistency of Light. You can always see what is happening and what is coming - because of the **LIGHT**.*

*The devil however, being a master of deception, is always changing. He lies, steals, cheats, kills, destroys, is unpredictable, undependable, inconsistent, etc. That is what I am referring to as the consistency of Darkness. You can't see what is happening or what is coming because you're in **DARKNESS**. The devil may try to mask his work as something good, but it is always easily recognized for what it ultimately produces - **DEATH and DESTRUCTION**. (II Corinthians 11:13-15; John 10:10a)*

*So when things come into our lives that we don't like, we need to learn how to separate whether this is God's Discipline, or the Devil's Attack. ("...the Mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish **GOOD** from **EVIL**." -- Hebrews 5:14) The more mature we are as a christian, the easier this will be to do.*

God does discipline his children. His motive is Love which flows out of his 'Character'. His 'Purpose' is to save us from sin, death, hell, the grave, and eternal damnation with sin.

*If we are going to keep our life on target as christians, it begins with the Fear of the Lord. Then as we mature it moves into Love being the basic motivating factor. When a person is saved, we experience the Love of God for the first time. However, our understanding that he loves us is **NOT** what keeps us on the straight and narrow as a young believer. Realize that as a baby, or young christian, we have very little love for God. The Love we do have is a child's love **VERY SELFISH - VERY SELF-CENTERED ON WHAT HE CAN DO FOR US**. And as young christians, we're not really too concerned of what we can do for him. That comes with Maturity. (Just like in any relationship)*

*The factor that keeps us submissive and obedient as immature believers is - the Fear of the Lord. When we don't live correctly, we get Disciplined. The Fear of that happening too much in our life causes us to keep our lives in check. As we grow in our relationship with God, that motivator turns from Fear to Love. We begin to understand our God. We learn to sense his disappointment and pain with our bad attitudes, poor choices and behaviors, etc. We start to understand that it damages our relationship with him. Since we've grown to appreciate that relationship and don't want it damaged, we quickly make corrections to our life so that relationship stays intact and strong. **THAT'S CALLED - LOVE.** It's that love for him, and wanting to please him, and not hurt him in any way - that eventually causes us to live in obedience to what he desires.*

*We're learning and growing. And soon, we're doing what God asks because we love him; not because we're afraid of what might happen if we don't. We do what God asks because we Love Him and our whole heart wants to please him. However, **MATURE** believers are ever aware that **He Is God and We Are Not.** There is an **EVER-PRESENT UNDERSTANDING THAT WE CAN MESS THIS UP.** That is called The Fear of the Lord.*

THAT PRINCIPLE MUST BE DUPLICATED IN THE EARTHLY FAMILY ALSO!!!

PLEASE NOTE: *All of the above principles carry through in a parents discipline of their children and building a relationship of Love with them. We truly are to be Imitators of God. ("Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children, and live a life of love...." -- Ephesians 5:1-2a) **AS GOD DEALS WITH US, SO ARE WE TO DEAL WITH OUR CHILDREN.** (That's how Ephesians 6:4 links directly to Hebrews 12 - Explanation is given below)*

*Let me also state some of the scriptures from number **VI.** (The Fear of the Lord is Learned), and from number **VII.** (Characteristics of the Fear of the Lord). --- Both are earlier in this booklet --- These scriptures give the reason we need to look at the Fear of the Lord and God's Discipline.*

Deuteronomy 10:12 - Steps to Fearing the Lord. Walk in his ways - Love him - Serve him with your whole heart and soul - Obey his word.

“ 13:4 - Follow God, Keep his commands, Serve Him, Obey Him, Hold tightly to him.

Joshua 24:14 - Serve him with faithfulness. Get rid of all other gods.

I Samuel 12:14-15 - Serve and Obey him. Do not rebel against his commands. (If you do this it will be good. If you don't, God's hand will be against you)

I Samuel 11:7 - The threat of repercussion for not fearing God helps to instill the Fear of God.

*II Kings 17:28-41 - Teaching people how to Fear the Lord. Worship Him - Bow Down to Him
- Offer Sacrifices - Keep His Word & Commands - Do Not Worship other
Gods - Don't Forget the Covenant - Worship Him.*

*Psalms 34:11-14 - Children are taught how to Fear the Lord. Keep Your Tongue from Evil
- Don't Lie - Turn From Evil - Do Good - Seek & Pursue Peace.*

*Proverbs 2:1-5 - Steps necessary to learn how to Fear the Lord. Listen to your parents - Re-
member the Word of God they give to you.*

Isaiah 25:2-3 - God's judgment brings the Fear of the Lord.

*Zephaniah 3:7-20 - Judgment comes when there is no Fear of the Lord. God does this in an
effort to teach man to Fear Him, and bring him back into relationship.*

*Psalms 2:11-12 - "Serve the Lord with fear and rejoice with trembling. Kiss the Son, lest he be
angry and you be destroyed in your way, for his wrath can flare up in a
moment. Blessed are all who take refuge in him."*

*Psalms 36:1-4 - When we flatter ourselves, or have such a high opinion of ourselves that we
cannot detect or hate our own sin; when our speech is wicked and deceitful;
when we no longer seek after wisdom and try to do good; when we lay awake
and think about and plan evil, and commit ourselves to following through on it
and don't reject the thoughts and thinking; --- WHEN WE DO THESE
TYPES OF THINGS, WE DON'T FEAR THE LORD. (v 1b)*

Psalms 55:19 - When we don't change our ways, We Don't Fear The Lord.

*Psalms 119:120 - When our flesh trembles in fear of him and we stand in awe of his laws/
word, Then We Fear The Lord.*

*Proverbs 2:1-5 - To understand the Fear of the Lord and to find the Knowledge of God we
must: Accept the words and store up the commands of Godly parents.*

Romans 3:9-18 - When we have no Fear of God we - do not do what is right.

- don't endeavor to understand.

- don't seek God.

*- But rather we turn away from the things of God, and don't do good. Death
and deceit are in our mouths and on our lips. We kill other with our lips. We
continually speak curses and bitterness. Murder. Other peoples Destruc-
tion and Misery mark where we have been. We don't know how to live in
peace.*

II Corinthians 7:1 - To Fear God is to purify ourselves from all forms of sin and mature in holiness.

Ephesians 5:21-6:9 - All submission in relationships is to be done out of the Fear of God. Such as: Wives to Husbands; Husbands to Christ; Children to Parents; Slaves (employees) to Masters (Employers).

Philippians 2:12-15 - Fear of the Lord produces Obedience in our Salvation. Do everything without Complaining and Arguing.

Hebrews 11:7 - Noah obeyed and build the ark out of the Fear of the Lord.

If we are to Serve, Obey, Not Rebel, Do What is Right, Stay Away From Evil and Sin, Mature in Holiness, Submit in Relationships, and do everything without Arguing and Complaining - WE MUST HAVE DISCIPLINE. As we've previously studied, LOVE IN IT'S TRUEST FORM IS DISCIPLINE. (I Corinthians 13:4-8; I John 5:2-5)

We are to be imitators of God. God sets the example of how we are to handle our children by how he handles us. That's one way Ephesians 6:4 links directly to Hebrews 12)

We need to look at Discipline. We are told to make Disciples. We're not told to make converts. A disciple is a 'Disciplined One'. In the beginning stages of Christian growth, we don't discipline ourselves because of our Love For God. We do it because of our Fear of God. (That same principle also holds true between earthly children and parents) If we truly want to live in Love and Fear God, and Obey him on a consistent basis, we will need to be made into a Disciple. (A Disciplined one) So what Jesus said in Matthew 28:19a, goes perfectly with what God is working on accomplishing in our lives in Hebrews 12.

Let's look at how God views Discipline.

"In your struggle against sin, you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. And you have forgotten that word of encouragement that addresses you as sons: My son, do not make light of the Lord's discipline, and do not lose heart when he rebukes you, because the Lord disciplines those he loves, and he punishes every one he accepts as a son. Endure ("hardship as" - is not in the Original) discipline; God is treating you as sons.

For what son is not disciplined by his father? If you are not disciplined (and every one undergoes discipline), then you are illegitimate children and not true sons. Moreover, 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 our spirits and live! Our fathers disciplined us for a little while as they thought best; but God disciplines us for our good, that we may share in his holiness. 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. Therefore, strengthen your feeble arms

and weak knees. Make level paths for your feet, so that the lame may not be disabled, but rather healed.

Hebrews 12:4-13 (NIV)

“You have not yet struggled and fought agonizingly against sin, nor have you yet resisted and withstood to the point of pouring out your own blood. And have you completely forgotten the divine word of appeal and encouragement in which you are reasoned with and addressed as sons? My son, do not think lightly or scorn to submit to the correction and discipline of the Lord, nor lose courage and give up and faint when you are reprovved or corrected by Him; For the Lord corrects and disciplines everyone whom He loves, and He punishes, even scourges, every son whom He accepts and welcomes to his heart and cherishes. You must submit to and endure correction for discipline; God is dealing with you as with sons. For what son is there whom his father does not thus train and correct and discipline? Now if you are exempt from correction and left without discipline in which all of God’s children share, then you are illegitimate offspring and not true sons at all. Moreover, we have had earthly father who disciplined us and we yielded to them and respected them for training us. shall we not much more cheerfully submit to the Father of spirits and so truly live? For our earthly fathers disciplined us for only a short period of time and chastised us as seemed proper and good to them; but He disciplines us for our certain good, that we may become sharers in His own holiness. For the time being no discipline brings joy, but seems grievous and painful; but afterwards it yields a peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it - a harvest of fruit which consists in righteousness - in conformity to God’s will in purpose, thought, and action, resulting in right living and right standing with God. So then, brace up and reinvigorate and set right your slackened and weakened and drooping hands and strengthen your feeble and palsied and tottering knees, and cut through and make firm and plain and smooth, straight paths for your feet - yes, make them safe and upright and happy paths that go in the right direction, so that the lame and halting limbs may not be put out of joint, but rather may be cured.”

Hebrews 12:4-13 (Amp.)

Now Listen Carefully. To accept everything bad that happens in our life as being from God, is to eliminate a great part of what Jesus came to this earth to do - namely, defeat the devil and put an end to what he is doing in the human race. (Acts 10:38; Hebrews 2:14-15; I John 3:8) ----- But to accept everything bad that happens in our life as from the Devil, is to eliminate God’s ability to discipline us and change the behavior of his children. God says in his word over and over again that if we are not doing what he wants us to do, he will literally fight against the success of our plans. (I Samuel 12:15; Psalms 33:10-11; Proverbs 19:21; Acts 5:39, 13:11; James 4:6; I Peter 3:12, 5:5) That, by the way, an aspect of discipline.

Here's why we have most people in two ditches. The main-line denominational church feels everything that happens in life is of God. And we have no power to change much of anything that is going on in our lives. That's why they don't believe in laying on of hands, healing, signs and wonders, miracles, gifts of the Spirit, etc. They've basically concluded that most everything that happens in life is 'God's Will' for us. Therefore accept it.

Many Charismatics, Full-Gospel, Faith churches have gone into the other ditch. They feel that anything bad that happens can only be from the Devil. So if God tries to bring some discipline into their lives by impeding their progress, they immediately accuse the Devil of attacking them. That's why so many of us have such an "UNDISCIPLINED AND SINFUL" lifestyle. We never give it a thought that God might be trying to get our attention so that he can get the sin out of our lives and clean us up. In our mind, any set-backs, or resistance to forward movement must be the devil. That is the other ditch. The truth is in the middle of the road.

Below is a breakdown of steps that God showed to Mary and me when our children were little and we were studying on how to instruct and discipline them. The core of the scriptures that this little chart is patterned after are found in: Proverbs 1-9; Matthew 15:1-20, chapter 23; Ephesians 6:1-4; and Hebrews 12. (Many others principles found in scripture also come into play. But once you see the pattern, it's easy to recognize the other principles when you find them.

*God's discipline in our lives can be stepped through as follows: It starts from the top of the chart and works down as we 'PERSIST IN NOT REPENTING'. If at any point we repent, the movement 'DOWN THE DISCIPLINE COLUMN' stops, and we find ourselves quickly moving toward the top of the chart again in our relationship with God. **THIS IS NORMAL, HEALTHY DISCIPLINE!!!***

'GOD DISCIPLINING US'

MAKE APPLICATION

- (1) Situation/Behavior Confronted.***
- (2) Tension Begins to Develop in the Relationship.***
- (3) Loss of Joy/Communion/Closeness in the Relationship.***
- (4) Persistent Conviction/Guilt.***
- (5) Loss of Privileges. (The Gifts/Extras)***
- (6) Communication Grows more Focused on My Issues. (God speaks to me less and less about much of anything except for my sin/problem)***
- (7) Beginning to Lose My Living in Favor and Blessing. (The everyday, needed Variety) I am Slowly Losing What I thought were 'My Rights'.***
- (8) There is Little OR No Meaningful Communication Outside of My Problem/Issue/Attitude.***
- (9) Where There Were Once Blessings - Curses are Beginning. (Consequences)***
- (10) Conviction and Communication become almost Non-Existent because of my***
- (11) Because of my Rebellion, My Desire for God and the Things of God have been Ever Decreasing. I Find Myself Having God, nor do I Think/Wants.***
- (12) I'm Handed Over to the Devil (or the World) to Receive Some Abuse, I've Walked out From Under the Protection of God.***

'Hardness of Heart'.

'NO DESIRE' to Please Really Care What He

(13) If There Never is Repentance, My Life Will Start Falling Apart, and Anything of Eternal Value Will Turn into Ruins/Ashes.

MAKE APPLICATION

(14) I Will Likely Lose My Salvation.

Please notice! At the bottom range of the 'Column of Discipline, is where the Fear of the Lord must prevail in order to cause us to follow and listen. As you move up the column, you slowly find yourself being motivated by 'MORE LOVE' and 'LESS FEAR'. This is where God wants to live with us at ALL Times. However, moving up the column is dependent completely on our level of maturity. The more mature we are, the higher up the scale we can move and stay.

REMEMBER: *The movement down the chart can stop at any point if there is 'Ownership of Behavior' and 'Repentance'.*

Please Note: The Handout: "God's Discipline" is on Page 40

The chart also directly applies to Parental Discipline of our children. Below is the same chart simply applied to parents and children. Remember: We're to be imitators of God.

'PARENT DISCIPLINING US'

MAKE APPLICATION

(1) Situation/Behavior Confronted.

(2) Tension Begins to Develop in the Relationship.

(3) Loss of Joy/Communion/Closeness in the Relationship.

(4) Persistent Conviction/Guilt.

(5) Loss of Privileges. (The Gifts/Extras)

(6) Communication Grows more Focused on my Issues. (Parents speak less and less about much of anything except for my sin/problem)

(7) Beginning to Lose My Living in Favor and Blessing. (The everyday, needed Variety) I am Slowly Losing What I thought were 'My Rights'.

MAKE APPLICATION

(8) There is Little or No Meaningful Communication Outside of My Problem/Issue/Attitude.

(9) Where There Were Once Blessings - Curses are Beginning. (Consequences)

(10) Conviction and Communication become almost Non-Existent because of my

'Hardness of Heart'.

(11) Because of my Rebellion, My Desire for the Family and the Things of the Family have been Ever Decreasing. I Find Myself Having 'NO DESIRE' to Please my Parents or my Siblings, nor do I Really Care What They Think/Want.

(12) I Eventually Find Myself in a Situation Where I Receive Some Abuse in life. It's because I've Walked out From Under the Protection of my Family and God.

(13) If There Never is Repentance, My Life Will Start Falling Apart, and Anything of Eternal Value and True Family Value Will Turn into Ruins/Ashes.

(14) I Will Likely Lose My Family and My Salvation.

In Ephesians 6:4, Paul uses the words 'Nurture and Admonition' (KJV) and 'Training and Instruction' (NIV) to talk about how to raise children. Something of importance is that the same Greek word translated 'Nurture' in Ephesians 6:4, is translated 'Chastening' & 'Chastisement' in Hebrews 12. So once again, the pattern of Hebrews 12 and how God disciplines us as his children is the example for Ephesians 6:4. Let's look at 'Nurture & Admonition' and see what they mean.

Title: Strong's Hebrew and Greek Dictionaries

G3809 - 'Nurture' in Eph. 6:4. 'Chastening/Chastisement in Heb. 12:5,7,8,11.

παιδεία

paideia

pahee-di'-ah

From **G3811** ; *tutorage*, that is, *education* or *training*; by implication *disciplinary correction*:—chastening, chastisement, instruction, nurture.

Title: Thayer's Greek Definitions

G3809 'Nurture' in Eph. 6:4. 'Chastening/Chastisement in Heb. 12:5,7,8,11.

παιδεία

paideia

Thayer Definition:

1) the whole training and education of children (which relates to the cultivation of mind and morals, and employs for this purpose now commands and admonitions, now reproof and punishment) It also includes the training and care of the body

2) whatever in adults also cultivates the soul, especially by correcting mistakes and curbing passions.

2a) instruction which aims at increasing virtue

2b) chastisement, chastening, (of the evils with which God visits men for their amendment)

Title: Strong's Hebrew and Greek Dictionaries

G3811

παιδέω

paideuō

pahee-dyoo'-o

From **G3816** ; to *train* up a child, that is, *educate*, or (by implication) *discipline* (by punishment):—chasten (-ise), instruct, learn, teach.

Title: Thayer's Greek Definitions

G3811

παιδεύω

paideuō

Thayer Definition:

1) to train children

1a) to be instructed or taught or learn

1b) to cause one to learn

2) to chastise

2a) to chastise or castigate with words, to correct

2a1) of those who are moulding the character of others by reproof and admonition

2b) of God

2b1) to chasten by the affliction of evils and calamities

2c) to chastise with blows, to scourge

2c1) of a father punishing his son

2c2) of a judge ordering one to be scourged

Other scriptures with the same Greek word for 'Nurture/Chastening/Discipline'.

I Corinthians 11:32; II Corinthians 6:9; Revelation 3:19

Title: Strong's Hebrew and Greek Dictionaries

G3559 'Admonition' in Eph. 6:4.

νουθεσία

nouthesia

noo-thes-ee'-ah

From **G3563** and a derivative of **G5087** ; calling *attention* to, that is, (by implication) mild *rebuke* or *warning*:—admonition.

Title: Thayer's Greek Definitions

G3559 'Admonition' in Eph. 6:4.

νουθεσία

nouthesia

Thayer Definition:

1) admonition, exhortation

Title: Strong's Hebrew and Greek Dictionaries

G3563

VOU~Σ

nous

nooce

Probably from the base of **G1097** ; the *intellect*, that is, *mind* (divine or human; in thought, feeling, or will); by implication *meaning*:—mind, understanding. Compare **G5590** .

Title: Thayer's Greek Definitions

G3563

VOU~Σ

nous

Thayer Definition:

- 1) the mind, comprising alike the faculties of perceiving and understanding and those of feeling, judging, determining
 - 1a) the intellectual faculty, the understanding
 - 1b) reason in the narrower sense, as the capacity for spiritual truth, the higher powers of the soul, the faculty of perceiving divine things, of recognising goodness and of hating evil
 - 1c) the power of considering and judging soberly, calmly and impartially
- 2) a particular mode of thinking and judging, i.e thoughts, feelings, purposes, desires

Since the pattern of Gods Discipline of his children carries through to the Parental Discipline of their children via the word 'Nurture/Chastening', let's look at some of the words God uses to describe his kind of Discipline in Hebrews 12. (See the Hebrews 12 section of scripture on page 23)

Hebrews 12:5 - God's discipline is given to 'Encourage' us.

Title: Strong's Hebrew and Greek Dictionaries

G3874 'Exhortation' in the KJV. 'Encouragement' in the NIV.

παράκλησις
paraklēsis

par-ak'-lay-sis

From **G3870** ; *imploration, hortation, solace*:—comfort, consolation, exhortation, intreaty.

Title: Thayer's Greek Definitions

G3874 'Exhortation' in the KJV. 'Encouragement' in the NIV.

παράκλησις

paraklēsis

Thayer Definition:

- 1) a calling near, summons, (especially for help)
- 2) importation, supplication, entreaty
- 3) exhortation, admonition, encouragement
- 4) consolation, comfort, solace; that which affords comfort or refreshment
- 4a) thus of the Messianic salvation (so the Rabbis call the Messiah the consoler, the comforter)
- 5) persuasive discourse, stirring address
- 5a) instructive, admonitory, conciliatory, powerful hortatory discourse

Title: Strong's Hebrew and Greek Dictionaries

G3870

παρακαλέω
parakaleō

par-ak-al-eh'-o

From **G3844** and **G2564** ; to *call near*, that is, *invite, invoke* (by *imploration, hortation* or *consolation*):—beseech, call for, (be of good) comfort, desire, (give) exhort (-ation), intreat, pray.

Title: Thayer's Greek Definitions

G3870

παρακαλέω

parakaleō

Thayer Definition:

- 1) to call to one's side, call for, summon
- 2) to address, speak to, (call to, call upon), which may be done in the way of exhortation, entreaty, comfort, instruction, etc.
 - 2a) to admonish, exhort
 - 2b) to beg, entreat, beseech
 - 2b1) to strive to appease by entreaty
 - 2c) to console, to encourage and strengthen by consolation, to comfort
 - 2c1) to receive consolation, be comforted
 - 2d) to encourage, strengthen
 - 2e) exhorting and comforting and encouraging
 - 2f) to instruct, teach

Hebrews 12:5 - We're told NOT to 'Despise' the Chastening of the Lord.

Title: Strong's Hebrew and Greek Dictionaries

G3643 'Despise' in the KJV. 'Do not make light of' in the NIV.

ὀλιγωρέω

oligōreō

ol-ig-o-reh'-o

From a compound of **G3641** and ὥρα ὄρα ("care"); to *have little regard* for, that is, to *disesteem*:—despise.

Title: Thayer's Greek Definitions

G3643 'Despise' in the KJV. 'Do not make light of' in the NIV.

ὀλιγωρέω

oligōreō

Thayer Definition:

- 1) to care little for, regard lightly, make small account

Hebrews 12:5 - ‘Chastening’. ‘Discipline’ in the NIV. (Definitions listed on page 28)

Hebrews 12:5 - “Nor ‘Faint’ when thou are Rebuked”

Title: Strong’s Hebrew and Greek Dictionaries

G1590 ‘Faint’ in the KJV. ‘Lose Heart’ in the NIV.

ἐκλύω

ekluō

ek-loo'-o

From **G1537** and **G3089** ; to *relax* (literally or figuratively):—faint.

Title: Thayer’s Greek Definitions

G1590 ‘Faint’ in the KJV. ‘Lose Heart’ in the NIV.

ἐκλύω

ekluō

Thayer Definition:

1) to loose, unloose, to set free

2) to dissolve, metaphorically, to weaken, relax, exhaust

2a) to have one’s strength relaxed, to be enfeebled through exhaustion, to grow weak, grow weary, be tired out

2b) to despond, become faint hearted

Hebrews 12:5 - ‘Rebuked’ of him. (The Lord)

Title: Strong’s Hebrew and Greek Dictionaries

G1651 ‘Rebuked’ in KJV. ‘Rebukes’ in NIV.

ἐλέγχω

elegchō

el-eng'-kho

Of uncertain affinity; to *confute*, *admonish*:—convict, convince, tell a fault, rebuke, reprove.

Title: Thayer's Greek Definitions

G1651 'Rebuked' in KJV. 'Rebukes' in NIV.

ἐλέγχω

elegchō

Thayer Definition:

- 1) to convict, refute, confute
 - 1a) generally with a suggestion of shame of the person convicted
 - 1b) by conviction to bring to the light, to expose
- 2) to find fault with, correct
 - 2a) by word
 - 2a1) to reprehend severely, chide, admonish, reprove
 - 2a2) to call to account, show one his fault, demand an explanation
 - 2b) by deed
 - 2b1) to chasten, to punish

Hebrews 12:6 - 'Scourgeth' every son.

Title: Strong's Hebrew and Greek Dictionaries

G3146 'Scourgeth' in the KJV. 'Punishes' in the NIV.

μαστιγόω

mastigoō

mas-tig-o'-o

From **G3148** ; to *flog* (literally or figuratively):—scourge.

Title: Thayer's Greek Definitions

G3146 'Scourgeth' in the KJV. 'Punishes' in the NIV.

μαστιγόω

mastigoō

Thayer Definition:

- 1) to scourge
- 2) metaphorically of God as a father chastising and training men as children by afflictions
(Further developing on the word Afflictions. This info. is not found in Thayer's.
Webster Definition: "Pain, Suffering" - See Hebrews 2:10, 18; 5:8; I Peter 4:1; I Peter chapters 4 & 5; Romans 5:1-5; II Corinthians 1:5-7; Philippians 1:29; 3:10; II Timothy 1:8)

Other scriptures where the same Greek word for 'Scourge' is found.

John 19:1; Acts 22:24; Hebrews 11:36

Title: Strong's Hebrew and Greek Dictionaries

G3148

μάστιξ

mastix

mas'-tix

Probably from the base of **G3145** (through the idea of *contact*); a *whip* (literally the Roman *flagellum* for criminals; figuratively a *disease*):—plague, scourging.

Title: Thayer's Greek Definitions

G3148

μάστιξ

mastix

Thayer Definition:

- 1) a whip, scourge
- 2) metaphorically a scourge, plague
- 2a) a calamity, misfortune, especially sent by God to discipline or punish

This can be a very sobering section of scripture. But it really does encourage us to be Disciples (Disciplined Ones). This is what God is doing in us according to Hebrews 12. And the words that are used to describe what God is doing should invoke the 'Fear of the Lord'.

X. ALERT!!!!!! ----- ALERT!!!!!! ----- ALERT!!!!!!

For those of us who have been abused in our lives. (Physically, Sexually, Verbally, Emotionally, Etc.) WE MUST PAY CLOSE ATTENTION TO WHAT IS BEING SAID HERE!!!!!! Because of our own Abuse, the Pain, and the Damage/Dysfunction that has entered into our thinking and emotions because of the Abuse ----- WE CAN VERY EASILY MISUNDERSTAND GOD AND HIS WAYS!!!!!!

The reason many times God is misunderstood, is because we try to understand Him and interpret His actions/motives by our own past experiences. Like it says in Hebrews 12, we have all had fathers/parents who disciplined us as they thought best. Truthfully speaking, it may have been what they thought was best, but in reality, often it wasn't always for the best. Not only

did they make mistakes in how they disciplined us; some of them also abused us. Because of that, we are now interpreting God according to our own bad experiences. So we think that God makes mistakes and is an Abuser also.

ABUSE IS SIN!!!! GOD DOES NOT ABUSE BECAUSE HE DOES NOT AND CANNOT SIN!!!! AND ALSO, GOD IS PERFECT - HE CANNOT MAKE A MISTAKE.

For those of us who have been Abused. We will need to separate our PRESENT life and Relationship with God from our PAST life and relationships with our Abusers. IF WE DO NOT, we will never grow and mature as a christian. We will never have any trust for God or for our Fellow Christians. We will continually be thinking that God and Christians are doing us wrong, and therefore neither one really does Love us. We'll come to the conclusion that this whole thing of Christianity is a farce.

WE WILL NEED TO RE-LEARN WHAT A RELATIONSHIP IS ALL ABOUT!!!! SIMPLY BECAUSE WE DON'T KNOW!!!! WE HAVEN'T BEEN TAUGHT!!!! THE ONLY THING WE'VE BEEN TAUGHT WITH CONSISTENCY IS ABUSE!!!!

For those of us who have been abused and HAVE NOT dealt with it or worked it through, realize we haven't been healed yet. So there is one major thing we must own, admit, and begin to work on. This is it: WE DON'T KNOW HOW TO HAVE A CLOSE, INTIMATE, BONDED RELATIONSHIP WITH ANYONE --- INCLUDING GOD. All our relationships are likely built on Distrust and Self-Defense. (That's why they are not doing very well)

Because of that, we can't understand the Upper End of the 'Discipline Column'. (LOVE) We never sense God when He initially 'Confronts' us on our behavior because we don't TRUST Him enough to be that close to Him. We don't understand how His voice changes from Gentle & Soft to Stern, because we've never allowed ourselves to get close enough to Him to hear His voice on a consistent basis. The 'Closeness and Communion' with him are not missed, because we have never allowed ourselves to get that close to God. The 'Loss of Privileges' are not missed because we've never understood that part of a Loving Relationship.

Because of our own unwillingness to Trust and enter into a close, loving, caring, bonded, committed, giving, relationship with God, we automatically find that the only way for God to work in our lives and communicate with us and bring correction and discipline to us is via the bottom of the 'Discipline Column'. (FEAR)

So to have God's best in our lives, we will need to learn how to TRUST God and how to build a CLOSE AND INTIMATE RELATIONSHIP with him.

XI. Trust & Relationship.

- (1) To have a Trusting Relationship, you need two people who want it.*
- (2) Get Honest with God like you have never been honest in your life.*
 - Admit where you are at in your heart of hearts.*
 - Admit you don't know how to have relationship.*
 - Admit the fact you're not sure you want relationship.*
- (3) With everything within you - cry out to him about getting to know him.*
 - ask him to teach you about relationships.*
 - commit to that and never turn back.*
- (4) Be in the Word on a Daily Basis. Spend time in Prayer and Relationship with him on a Daily Basis. When in a corporate setting of church, bible study, prayer group, etc., enter into the music, the prayer, the message, the discussion, etc. - with everything inside of you. Commit to be consistent with doing these things if it takes the rest of your life.*

Conclusion.

The Fear of the Lord is something that is Very GOOD. If God wants us to have it, then it is GOOD. If Lucifer would have had it, it would have kept him out of trouble. It will keep us out of trouble also.

The Fear of the Lord will bring many GOOD things into our lives. It sets us up to walk in the Kingdom of God. It makes all the Promises and Blessings of God available to us. It will produce an unfathomable amount of GOOD in us and our lineage.

Our goal is to Mature to the point where the Fear of the Lord is not our main motivation. However, keep in mind that when we are young and immature in the Lord, the Fear of the Lord may be the biggest motivation in our lives. As we grow and mature spiritually, our greatest motivator should become our LOVE for God. We obey him and continually strive to please him because we Love him. (Luke 1:13, 30; 1:74; 12:7, 32 - Examples of being told not to fear him) This Love results from a strong and healthy Relationship - which takes time to develop.

But even as a Mature Christian. The Fear of the Lord always remains a foundational principle in our lives that we are EVER AWARE OF. We never get to the point where we are on equal standing with God in our attitude and thinking. God is NEVER our Buddy. He made

the rules. He will ultimately enforce them. NEVER LET THAT CONCEPT SLIP FROM YOUR AWARENESS.

Most of all, The Fear of the Lord keeps us in a position where Jesus is our Master and not Sin. That pleases God. That's what's Most Important. (II Corinthians 5:6-10)

The true Fear of the Lord was never designed or intended to drive us away from God. It is intended to draw us to him. And be an agent that cultivates Relationship with him, and produces a life of Blessing, Prosperity, and Intimacy with him - Eternally.

XII. 'Fear Not' (Handout)

Scripturally speaking, we as Christians are to 'FEAR NOTHING OR ANY ONE' - except God. Here is a listing of scriptures where God or an angel speaking for God tells us to 'FEAR NOTHING OR NO ONE'.

Genesis 15:1 - God telling Abraham not to fear.

Genesis 21:17 - Hagar told not to fear.

Genesis 26:24 - Isaac told not to fear.

Genesis 46:3 - Jacob told not to fear.

Number 14:9 - Israelites told not to fear people or enemies.

Numbers 21:34 - Moses told not to fear a king. (Og) (Deut. 3:2)

Deuteronomy 1:17 - Do not be afraid of any man, for judgment belongs to God.

Deuteronomy 1:21 - Israelites told not to fear people or enemies. (Deut. 3:22; 20:1, 3; 31:6, 8; II Chronicles 20:17)

Deuteronomy 18:22 - Don't be afraid of false prophets.

Joshua 8:1 - Joshua told not to fear people or enemies. (Josh. 10:8; 10:25)

Judges 6:10 - Don't fear other gods. (II Kings 17:35, 37; 17:38;)

Psalms 23:4 - We are not to fear evil.

Psalms 27:1 - We are not to fear men.

Psalms 27:3 - We are not to fear war.

Psalms 46:2-3 - We are not to fear earthquakes or natural catastrophes.

Psalms 49:5 - Don't fear evil days, wicked and deceitful men.

Psalms 56:4 - Do not be afraid of men or what they can do. The Lord is with us. (Ps. 118:6)

Proverbs 1:33 - We are not to fear harm or evil.

Proverbs 3:25 - Do not fear sudden disaster, or the things that overtake the unbeliever.

Isaiah 8:12 - Do not fear what other christians/believers fear.

Isaiah 41:9-13 - Don't fear the people who rage against you, or the people who oppose you, or your enemies.

Isaiah 43:1-2 - Fear not for we are redeemed and called by his name. Do not fear whatever may be in your path in life, or whatever you may need to go through.

Isaiah 43:5 - Don't be afraid of your children being kept away from you.

Isaiah 44:2-5 - Have no fear of your children being without the Spirit or the Blessing.

Isaiah 51:7 - Don't be afraid of the reproach or the insults that can come from men.

Isaiah 54:4 - We are not to fear shame or disgrace.

Isaiah 54:14 - We are to fear nothing.

Jeremiah 23:4 - Believers with good pastors are not to be afraid.

Lamentations 3:57 - Do not fear.

Ezekiel 3:9 - Do not fear rebellious Christians/believers.

Daniel 10:12, 19 - We are not to fear angels.

Haggai 2:5 - As long as his Spirit remains among us, we have nothing to fear.

Zechariah 8:13 - Don't be afraid, the Lord will save you.

Matthew 10:16-26 - Don't fear men, governors, kings, unbelievers, relatives, or what they can do to you.

Matthew 10:28 - Don't be afraid of people. They can only kill the body by not the soul. (Lu. 12:5)

Matthew 10:29-31 - The Father knows what is going on in our lives when people come against us, so don't be afraid.

Matthew 28:5 - We are not to be afraid of angels. (Lu. 1:12-13, 30; 2:10)

Luke 5:1-11 - We are not to fear the super-natural.

Luke 8:49-50 - We are not to fear death. (Mark 5:36)

Luke 12:1-7 - Don't fear false teaching and what it produces in people.

Luke 12:13-34 - Do not fear financial problems and being destitute.

Romans 8:15 - As Christians, we are not to be a slave to fear.

II Timothy 1:7 - We are not to have fear, but power, love, and a sound mind.

Hebrews 13:6 - We are not to fear what man can do to us.

I Peter 3:14 - Don't fear the threats of the evil/wicked.

I John 4:18 - There is no fear in love. Perfect love casts out fear.

Revelation 1:17 - Do not be afraid. Jesus rules over everything, and he will determine the end.

Revelation 2:10 - We are not to fear suffering.

XIII. Discipline of God (Handout)

Below is a listing of scriptures that use the word 'Discipline'. A study of these will help explain how God views and accomplishes Discipline in humans.

(These references are taken from the NIV version)

Layman's Definition of God's Discipline:

"God will confront us. Then inhibit our forward progress. Ultimately allowing our lives to go backwards, to produce the end result of saving our souls."

Deuteronomy 4:36 - He makes us hear his voice to discipline us.

" 8:5 - As a man Disciplines his son, so the Lord God (Jehovah Elohim) Disciplines us.

" 11:2-7 - What God did to Pharaoh and Egypt was discipline.

Psalms 39:11 - Discipline can remove our wealth. (Beauty of life)

" 94:12 - Blessing is produced from Discipline.

Proverbs 1:2 - Discipline is something to be attained.

" 1:7 - Fools despise Discipline.

" 3:11-12 - Do not despise the Lord's Discipline. He Disciplines those he Loves.

" 5:11-14 - Without Discipline, our lives will come to the brink of ruin.

" 5:22-23 - Evil, sin, and foolishness will kill the Undisciplined.

" 6:23 - The corrections of Discipline are the way to life.

" 10:17 - Heeding Discipline shows the way to life. Ignoring it leads others astray.

" 12:1 - To love Discipline is to love knowledge. To hate it shows you are stupid.

" 13:18 - Ignoring Discipline brings poverty and shame. Heeding it brings honor.

" 13:24 - To love your children demands that you Discipline them.

" 15:5 - Fools spurn Discipline. The Prudent heed Discipline/correction.

" 15:9-10 - We will receive Stern Discipline if we leave the path of righteousness. Hating Discipline/correction will produce death in us.

" 15:12 - Mockers resent Discipline/correction.

" 15:32 - Ignoring Discipline proves you despise yourself.

" 19:18 - Refusing to Discipline your son makes you an accomplice to his death.

" 22:15 - People without Discipline live in Foolishness.

" 23:13-14 - Discipline and Punishment keep us from Death.

" 29:17 - Disciplined children bring peace and delight.

Isaiah 26:16 - Discipline can be very difficult to bear. (It can be hard on us)

Jeremiah 30:11 - God Disciplines us with justice. He will not let us go unpunished. (46:28)

“ 32:33-35 - It is possible for a believer to not respond to Discipline.

Hosea 5:2 - Rebels receive Discipline.

I Corinthians 11:23-34 - Receiving communion with wrong attitudes will bring the Lord's Discipline. (Weakness, sickness, and death - to prevent eternal death)

Hebrews 12:5-11 - (This section of scripture has been quoted in the booklet)

Revelation 3:19 - Those God loves, he rebukes and Disciplines. He's seeking our Repentance.

Additional study on the subject includes a word study of the following in KJV:

Chasten; Chasteneth; Chastise; Chastisement. (All other forms of Chasten)

Reproof; Reproved; Reproveth; Rebuke; Rebuked. (All other forms.....)