

Moments of Inspiration

For Your Own Good

by Nicole Atherley

Which of us can say we love to be disciplined? I believe we can all agree we hate it. Our parents would have seen the need to discipline us at some point, whether we were slapped or whether we had our favourite toy, game or TV show taken away. Do you remember the tears? Do you remember the physical pain? Some of us do, to be sure. But for others it is a distant memory.

Let us cast our attention on the why. Why the punishment? We were disciplined so we can see the error of our ways and work on being better individuals – less disrespectful and more obedient. We also needed to be disciplined so we learned not to put ourselves in dangerous situations that could harm ourselves and other people. Our parents saw the need to discipline us because they loved us. To leave us to our own devices is the height of neglect.

Our Heavenly Father loves us and wants us to live full and productive lives. He has given guidelines, commandments and instructions that we are to follow in order to live a life that pleases Him. Many times, when God disciplines us, we question His love for us. But let us consider that God's intervention and correction

Proverbs 3: 11-12

My son, despise not the chastening of the Lord; neither be weary of His correction: for whom the Lord loveth He correcteth; even as a father the son in whom he delighteth. (KJV)

are because He loves us. He wants us to be like Him, as is seen when He says 'Be ye holy for I am holy' (Leviticus 20:26). He disciplines us so we can see the error of our ways, repent, and draw closer to Him. He disciplines us to save us from certain demise. Like our earthly parents, He wants the absolute best for us. To be disciplined by God means He is doing it for our own good.

Prayer: Heavenly Father, I thank you for Your word. Help me to look at Your correction in a different light from this time forth. You have given me the revelation that you chasten and correct me because You love me. I choose to humble myself before You and receive instruction from You because I know You have a good future in store for me (Jeremiah 29:11). I repent and turn away from my sinful and destructive behaviours so I can please You and represent You well. Continue to show me who I am in the mirror of Your Word, in Jesus' name. Amen.

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