

Consider Jesus: Resources for the Race (Part 2)
Hebrews 12:1-29

Resource #1 – The Living Illustration of Jesus Christ (12:1-3)

...not just the model or the motive, but the MEANS for running the race well

Resource #2 – The UNENDING LOVE OF OUR Heavenly Father (12:4-13)

In Distress or Suffering, We Look to Our Father Who Perfectly Loves Us – Ro 8:31-32; 1 Jo 4:8,18

- The motive for everything God does is His loving nature – Jo 3:16; Ro 5:8-10
 - ...He is always for us – Heb 12:10
- He loves us enough to discipline us – Heb 12:6,7
 - ...His desire is to train/teach, not punish us

A Proper View of God's Loving Discipline Is an Imperative – Heb 12:5-7

- So we may freely possess and fully express our possessions in Christ – Eph 1:3; Col 2:9,10; II Pet 1:3,4
 - ...we may experience temporal loss for the purpose of eternal gain – Ro 8:18; II Cor 4:17
- God is always working for our highest good – Heb 12:10
 - ...earthly parents do what seems good, God does what IS good – Heb 12:7-11
- Suffering that leads to truth and liberty is preferable to comfort that locks us into illusion and bondage.

A Few Eternal Results of Being Trained by God's Loving Discipline:

- We will bear righteous fruit – Heb 12:11
 - ...the character of Christ – Jo 15:1-11
- We will be sharers in His Holy Life – Heb 12:9-10
 - ...when the "natural" dies, it can be raised "spiritual" – Jo 12:24; Ga 2:20; Heb 7:16
- We will become caretakers of others – Heb 12:12,13
 - ...empathetic concern for others in distress – II Cor 1:3-11