

- Did you spend at least 5 minutes a day – at least 5 days last week reading/hearing the Bible?
- Did you share Jesus with someone this week? (*Have you shared with everyone in your circle of influence your Jesus story?*)
- Did you spend time alone with God this week? (no agenda)
- Do you know what the Holy Spirit is saying to you?
- Are you giving as God has asked you to give? (T, T, R)
- Did you invite someone to church with you this week?

### **Sermon Notes**

Lamentations 3 22 The faithful love of the Lord never ends! His mercies never cease. 23 Great is his faithfulness; his mercies begin afresh each morning. 24 I say to myself, “The Lord is my inheritance; therefore, I will hope in him!” 25 The Lord is good to those who depend on him, to those who search for him. 26 So it is good to wait quietly for salvation from the Lord. 27 And it is good for people to submit at an early age to the yoke of his discipline: 28 Let them sit alone in silence beneath the Lord’s demands. 29 Let them lie face down in the dust, for there may be hope at last. 30 Let them turn the other cheek to those who strike them and accept the insults of their enemies. 31 For no one is abandoned by the Lord forever. 32 Though he brings grief, he also shows compassion because of the greatness of his unfailing love. 33 For he does not enjoy hurting people or causing them sorrow.

Hebrews 12 5 And have you forgotten the encouraging words God spoke to you as his children? He said,

“My child, don’t make light of the Lord’s discipline,  
and don’t give up when he corrects you.

6 For the Lord disciplines those he loves,  
and he punishes each one he accepts as his child.” {Proverbs  
3:11-12}

7 As you endure this divine discipline, remember that God is treating you as his own children. Who ever heard of a child who is never disciplined by its father? 8 If God doesn’t discipline you as he does all of his children, it means that you are illegitimate and are not really his

children at all. 9 Since we respected our earthly fathers who disciplined us, shouldn't we submit even more to the discipline of the Father of our spirits, and live forever? 10 For our earthly fathers disciplined us for a few years, doing the best they knew how. But God's discipline is always good for us, so that we might share in his holiness. 11 No discipline is enjoyable while it is happening—it's painful! But afterward there will be a peaceful harvest of right living for those who are trained in this way. 12 So take a new grip with your tired hands and strengthen your weak knees. 13 Mark out a straight path for your feet so that those who are weak and lame will not fall but become strong.

**Ephesians 4** 11 Now these are the gifts Christ gave to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers. 12 Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ. 13 This will continue until we all come to such unity in our faith and knowledge of God's Son that we will be mature in the Lord, measuring up to the full and complete standard of Christ. 14 Then we will no longer be immature like children. We won't be tossed and blown about by every wind of new teaching. We will not be influenced when people try to trick us with lies so clever they sound like the truth. 15 Instead, we will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church.

### **Action Steps**

- What is the single (1) most obvious thing in your life that does not measure up to Christlikeness? Change it!
- What 1 thing can you start doing to build up the Church around you?
- What are you going through that might be discipline from the Lord and you have not considered it to be that? Do some self-examination and respond accordingly.
- Do you need to spend some quiet time with God simply waiting on Him?
- Do you know Jesus as your personal Savior?