

**January 16, 2021**

**Job 5:17, “Blessed is the man whom God corrects; so do not despise the discipline of the Almighty.”**

The Hebrew word for *discipline* is **umusar** which means *to correct, warn, punish or chastise*. I think we all understand that discipline is a part of life. Whether it comes from a parent, employer, our government or law enforcement, it comes; and not many of us like to accept the consequences. I recall a time when I was a young parent and I disciplined my child out of anger. It caused a closed spirit in my child’s life and until I was willing to admit my guilt, it would cause worse damage than the penalty I had administered. I realized my mistake and immediately apologized. Soon we were cuddling up together and sharing some laughs and giggles and reading a favorite book. But, our Father, the Almighty God, never disciplines from a selfish heart or an angry spirit. He disciplines from a place of love. **Pv. 3:12, “The LORD disciplines those He loves.”**

When we think about the discipline, we usually focus on the pain rather than the outcome. As a young athlete, I realized that my coaches were not making me run sprints at the end of two-a-day practices to punish me; but instead to build endurance in me. In the same manner, God allows His discipline to come for a holy purpose. Then God brought me to a verse in the book of Hebrews that I’ve had in my memory ever since. **Heb. 12:11, “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.”**

**Dear LORD, we thank You for the times You discipline us, so that we can be made more into the likeness of Your Son. You discipline those You love. We praise You, In Jesus Name, Amen**