



GROUP QUESTIONS FOR **APRIL 12**

Series: *By Faith*

Discipline (Hebrews 12:3-11)

Icebreakers!

1. What was something your parents made you do as a kid that you hated in the moment – but you're really glad they made you do it now?
2. What's a life lesson you only learned because your parents called you out on it to correct you and discipline you?

Growing Together

3. **Study Hebrews 12:3-11 on the back of this page.** Circle important things you see, and put arrows by anything that could be hard to understand. What big ideas stand out?
4. What kinds of hostility did Jesus endure? How does taking a careful look at His life give you strength and courage, so that you won't grow weary or fainthearted?
5. Do you know anyone who rejects God because of what He allowed to happen in their life? Why do some people think hardship denies God's love for us—and others, that hardship is where God proves His love for us?
6. When did you realize that the discipline parents bring is meant for their kids' good? How does our view of how God treats us get warped if our parents don't discipline us well?
7. *In Matthew 5:11-12, Jesus says you're blessed when others revile you and utter evil against you on His account. How does enduring this hostility make us more like Jesus?*
8. *What's the big picture Peter sets out in 1 Peter 4:12-19? How do we keep from being surprised at suffering according to God's will?*
9. **What did you hear in the message this Sunday that stood out to you?**
Is there anything you would emphasize, add, or change?

Head, Heart, and Hands

10. Where does this passage challenge you about hardship, discipline, and endurance in the Christian life? When you face hostility for Jesus, what must you remember?
11. How will you keep your heart from growing weary? or from despising the Lord's discipline? What will motivate you to endure the pain of God's discipline?
12. How is God making you more holy and peaceful as you bear up under His discipline?
13. If you have kids, how will you reflect to them Who God is with *godly* discipline?

Hebrews 12:3-11 (ESV)

Consider him [Jesus] **who endured from sinners such hostility against himself,**
so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.

In your struggle against sin
you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood.

**And have you forgotten the exhortation
that addresses you as sons?**

“My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord,
nor be weary when reproved by him.

For the Lord disciplines the one he loves,
and chastises every son whom he receives.”

It is for discipline that you have to endure.

God is treating you as sons.

For **what son is there whom his father does not discipline?**

If you are left without discipline,
in which all have participated,
then you are illegitimate children and not sons.

Besides this, we have had earthly fathers who disciplined us
and we respected them.

Shall we not much more be subject to the Father of spirits and live?

For they disciplined us for a short time

as it seemed best to them,

but **he disciplines us for our good,**
that we may share his holiness.

For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant,
but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness
to those who have been trained by it.