Minister Garry Parker December 27, 2020

**The Loving Discipline of Christ**

Hebrews 12:4-11

**Key Truth:** Jesus Christ wants us to choose His love and submit to His will and authority. He uses discipline to lovingly train us in righteousness.

1. Discipline always has a goal.

 A. Spiritual fitness and strength requires

 communion with God.

 B. Proves that we are His children.

 C. Trains us in righteousness. **Psalm. 94:12**

2. Discipline does not imply condemnation.

 A. God disciplines in love and not in anger.

 B. God is raising us to be His children. **Proverbs 3:11-12**

3. Discipline from God is alwaysfor our good.

 A. Joy of submission.

 B. Yields the peaceful fruit of God.

**Taking It Beyond The Walls**: Recognize, expect and examine the discipline God brings your way. Know that God is moving you toward your purpose for His glory.

**Food For Thought**

How did discipline generally look in the home your grew up in? Do you agree or disagree with the way your parents disciplined you? Why?

Do you tend to think of discipline from God in a beneficial way? Why or why not?

What is the difference between discipline and punishment?

Why is it important that we seek to discipline our children rather than merely punish them?

Have you ever felt like you were being disciplined by God? When?

What’s one area of your life you tend to get defensive about? What are some tangible steps you can take to submit this area of your life to God?

How can you be more receptive to the discipline of the Lord this week?