

# A FATHER WHO LOVES

(Reflections from the message on Father's Day, Sunday – June 19, 2016)

*“Whoever heeds discipline shows the way to life, but whoever ignores correction leads others astray.”*

**Proverbs 10:17 NLT**

The fun things about parenting – games, activities, singing, parties and celebrations – are often the first things we think of when we talk of loving our children. However, the greatest form of love is protection.

Protection comes in several ways. What are some of the things that come to mind when you protect your children?

When you discipline (or have disciplined) your children, do you consider that a form of protection?

Discipline is not always a form of punishment but any method that would give guidance and direction that would prepare our children for a healthy approach to life with the benefits supported by the values and beliefs of your family system.

According to scripture, what are some benefits of good discipline?

**Psalm 94:12**

**Proverbs 1:8, 9**

**Proverbs 3:11, 12**

**Proverbs 6:23**

**Proverbs 12:1**

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## Hebrews 12:11

**Deuteronomy 8:5** says, “Think about it: Just as a parent disciplines a child, the Lord your God disciplines you for your own good.” In **2 Timothy 1:7** we learn where the Lord’s instruction comes from and His blessings that come from it. Who is it and what do we gain?

God’s love comes in the form of discipline according to **Job 5:17**. How does the Lord show is love according to **Revelation 3:19**?

Read **Psalms 23**. Point out the phrases that may indicate some discipline.

How can we use proper discipline to help our children to know our love?

**Ephesians 6:4** instructs us to do what?

Our children will one day see the same benefits that David saw as he wrote **Psalms 119:75** – fair and just!

*“Don’t you realize that in a race everyone runs, but only one person gets the prize? So run to win! <sup>25</sup> All athletes are disciplined in their training. They do it to win a prize that will fade away, but we do it for an eternal prize. <sup>26</sup> So I run with purpose in every step. I am not just shadowboxing. <sup>27</sup> I discipline my body like an athlete, training it to do what it should. Otherwise, I fear that after preaching to others I myself might be disqualified.”*

**1 Corinthians 9:24-27**