

Children's Ministry

1st-2nd Grade

Leviticus 26:1-46

June 7th, 2009

Lesson Plan: Main Point: Discipline is love
Basic Idea: God disciplines those He loves.
How we get there: God disciplines the Israelites but does not destroy them

Examine Proverbs 3:11-12

1. How are we supposed to react to God's discipline?
2. Who does the Lord discipline?
3. Why does He discipline us?
4. How is His discipline like the discipline of our father?

Ask the kids many questions about discipline:

1. What kind of things do you do to get disciplined?
2. How do your mommy and daddy discipline you?
3. Why do you think your mommy and daddy discipline you?
4. Do your mommy and daddy love you?
5. Do you like discipline?

Explain to the kids that God disciplines us too, because He loves us. God knows that discipline is not fun for us, but He does it because He knows we need to learn that what we are doing is sin. His desire is that we become more like Jesus, and discipline is one way He does that.

Illustration

Playing in the street

Ask the kids what happens if they played in the street. (Hopefully, they'll say they would get disciplined!) Why? Because they could get hit by a car if they keep playing in the street. Because their mom and dad love them, they do not want them playing in the street. This isn't because mom and dad are mean, but because they want to protect them.

God disciplines us for the same reason. He is not being mean to us, but loves us so much He wants to protect us from sin.

Ask the children:

1. How does God discipline me?
2. How should we respond to it?

"Nailing It" Hebrews 4:4—*You have not resisted to the point of shedding blood in your striving against sin.* Punishment and discipline are different. Though we do not resist sin very well, Jesus perfectly resisted sin, and shed His blood to take our punishment. Punishment is getting what you deserve for sin (which Jesus took in our place). Discipline is being corrected so you learn not to sin. Because of Jesus, we don't have to face punishment!

