

God's Discipline





Year 1—Quarter 1 “God the Father”

Quarter Aim: God is not distant or unapproachable; rather, He is a caring Father who loves us deeply and wants the best for our lives.

Lesson 7: God’s Discipline

Kid’s Sermon

1. Understanding God’s Discipline:

Say: God disciplines us when we sin. Just as parents correct their children’s behavior, God lovingly corrects us when we go astray. It’s not about punishment, but about guiding us back to the right path.

2. Preventing Future Mistakes:

Say: Sometimes God disciplines us to prevent future sin. Imagine parents telling their kids not to play in the street. It’s not because they want to punish them, but to keep them safe. God’s discipline can prevent us from making harmful choices.

3. Learning Through Trials:

Say: God instructs us through the trials we face. Trials and challenges are opportunities for growth. Just as athletes train to improve, God uses difficulties to teach us valuable lessons.

4. Understanding Consequences:

Say: Our actions always have consequences. Discipline isn’t always negative; it includes training, education, and preparation. God’s discipline helps us grow and become better.

Power Point

Jesus comforts
us when we
mourn.

Lie:

God cannot be
trusted.

Truth:

Psalm 119:68, “*You are good, and what you do is good; teach me your decrees.*” (NIV)

God is Good All the Time

Remember that God is good all the time even in the tough times in life. Thank God for the many tough things He **doesn’t** allow into your life.

Q: As you talk to your Father God, are you willing to trust His goodness in the way He chooses to answer your prayer?

Psalm 119:68, “You are good, and what you do is good; teach me your decrees.” (NIV)

But, someone might ask, “What about the tough things that happen to us? Someone gets very sick, loses a job, or has to move far away from family and friends. Is God being good then?” What must be the answer to that question? YES! Why? Because **God is good all the time**.

Truth #1: God is good even in the tough times.

Truth #2: God is good in different ways for each person.

Truth #3: God is good in what He allows or doesn’t allow in our lives. (God blocks out more hard things in our lives than He allows to happen to us.)





Opening Activity

Obstacle Course:

Start out with a little obstacle course. This could be done outside or inside (depending on spacing and materials used), but set up several elements for children to work through: things to jump over, run around or between, or pick up.

On the first run-through, have students complete the obstacles while holding several bulky items, or wearing a big coat/backpack. Once everyone has done it, invite them to try it again, but this time without holding or wearing anything. **Ask:** Which way is easier? Obviously, running without things to hold you back or slow you down. Now, what if we wanted to further improve time on the obstacle course? What would we have to do in order to become more proficient?

Explain that today we are going to talk about hard work, hardship, and discipline. Say: consider Olympic athletes: How do they become better? What do they have to do? If it was hard going through the obstacle course, imagine what these sports stars must do in order to train.

This is not all fun. It takes dedication and discipline. The Bible often compares our work as Christians to this. It is hard work to follow God and to “run the race” He wants us to. But He promises that He will honor us if we stick with Him...

Craft: Make a Medal

Materials Needed: Construction paper, stickers, ribbon, string, scissors, glue, markers

Winners in God’s eyes...using the paper and stickers, have students create a “medal” for something they plan to do excellently as Godly discipline. It might be consistent prayer, verse memorization, or Bible study. If desired, fashion a necklace out of the medal with string or ribbon.

Close with prayer and thank God for loving us enough to discipline us. Ask for endurance in understanding and accepting hard things in order to grow.



