

“Stay the Course”

Greg Wendschlag May 6, 2018

“For we will all stand before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive what is due him for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.” 2 Cor. 5:10



1. We are **accountable** to God for how we live our lives.

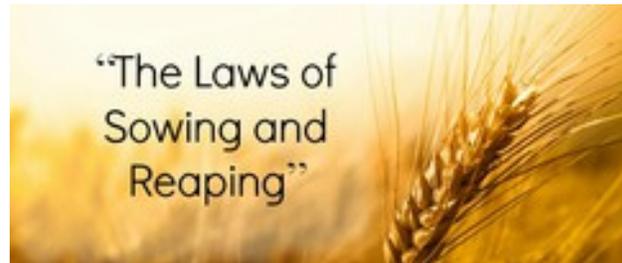
“Why do you look down on your brother? For we will all stand before God’s judgment seat...So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.” Rom. 14:10-12



“Do not be deceived: God is not mocked. A man reaps what he sows. The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will receive eternal life. Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.” Gal. 6:7-9

4 Laws of Sowing and Reaping

- You will sow.
- You will reap.
- You will reap what you sow.
- You will reap more than you sow.



2. God will **discipline us** because He loves us.

“In your struggle against sin, you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. And have you completely forgotten this word of encouragement that addresses you as a father addresses his son? It says, “My son, do not make light of the Lord’s discipline, and do not lose heart when he rebukes you, because the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and he chastens everyone he accepts as his son.”



Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as his children. For what children are not disciplined by their father? If you are not disciplined—and everyone undergoes discipline—then you are not

legitimate, not true sons and daughters at all. Moreover, we have all had human fathers who disciplined us and we respected them for it. How much more should we submit to the Father of spirits and live! They disciplined us for a little while as they thought best; but God disciplines us for our good, in order that we may share in his holiness. No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it. Therefore, strengthen your feeble arms and weak knees.” Heb. 12:4-12

- a. Fathers discipline their own children
- b. Though we don't like the discipline, we do like the results and respect our Fathers for it.
- c. Endure hardships as God's discipline.
- d. Keep the goal of holiness while you endure.

3. We must **discipline ourselves** because we love God.

“Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize?

Run in such a way as to get the prize. ²⁵ Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever. ²⁶ Therefore I do not run like someone running aimlessly; I do not fight like a boxer beating the air. ²⁷ No, I strike a blow to my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize.” 1 Cor. 9:24-27



- a. Discipline your **body**.
- b. Discipline your **mind**.
- c. Discipline your **will**.
- d. Discipline your **soul**.

*“For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of **self-discipline**.”
2 Tim. 1:7*

God's help

“To Him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you before His glorious presence without fault and with great joy – to



the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forever more! Amen!" Jude 24-25

Discussion Starters for Your Groups InCommon

1. What are some of the ways you practice self-discipline?
2. Have you ever set practical goals for spiritual growth? What goals could you set for yourself today?
3. Read James 1:2-4. How has God matured you through various trials?
4. Relying on the Lord's power is crucial for victory over the sinful nature. How do you practice reliance on the Lord on a daily basis?