**Hebrews 12:1-11 - Child-training:   
God is getting us ready for the Kingdom**

**Hebrews 12:1-2 – Focus on Jesus**

* **What He did**
* **How He did it**
* **When we keep our focus on Christ and what He accomplished, it helps contextualize our own problems.**

**Hebrews 12:3-6 – Don’t dramatize, but contextualize**

* **Difficulties can wear us out and discourage us. A focus on Christ can help counter that.**
* **One of the most common tendencies is to exaggerate our problems.**

**Hebrews 12:7-8 – We are treated as sons**

* **If we’re going to be partners, we need to be trained.**
* **“Illegitimate” = a child with no legal standing and not in line to inherit.**

**“Children born outside marriage could not inherit from their father.”**

**(OXFORD DICTIONARY, “Children and Romans Law,” “Duties and Obligations concerning children”).**

* **When our child training comes, it comes from a Father who loves us and is getting us ready for eternity. He’s always right and does what is best.**
* **Part of that involves character, part of it involves a “letting go,” and part we won’t know until the Day dawns.**
* **If we walk away from the child-training, like the Prodigal Son, we lose both the training and the reward.**
* **Difficulties will still come. They will either enslave and destroy us or they will build and prepare.**

**James 1:2-4 - A key purpose of trials is to help us mature.**

**Romans 8:12-18 – As we walk in the Spirit’s power, God gets us ready for inheritance (2 Timothy 2:12).**

**Hebrews 12:9-11 – Our Father knows best**

* **Unlike human fathers, our Father always knows what’s best.**
* **The result is that we share in our lives what He has made us in position.**
* **When faced with difficulty, our response determines the outcome.**
* **The difficulties do not end when we react badly.**
* **But they will impact…one way or another!**
* **“Trained by it” Heb. 5:14 = “to train, to undergo discipline”**
* **Notice the context before and after 5:14, then chapter 12.**
* **Faith is essential to be successful and maximize the benefit.**
* **A painful but powerful process**
* **Being a teachable person is critical (Lk. 14:25-33; Matt. 11:28-30)**

**God is getting us ready for the Kingdom!**