

Session Three

Sowing and Reaping

INSTRUCTING A CHILD'S HEART

*Sowing and reaping:
Consequences*

I. SOWING AND REAPING

A. DEFINITIONS

1. Behaviorism - constraining and controlling behavior through a system of rewards and punishments

2. Biblical Consequences - uses the enduring truth of the Scripture to instruct the heart and direct behavior

B. Sowing and Reaping Principle

Galatians 6:7, 8

7 Do not be not deceived; God cannot mocked. A man reaps what he sows.

8 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 reap eternal life.

1. TWO TYPES OF CONSEQUENCES

a. Natural - what happens if no one interferes

b. Shaped by authority - parents determine the outcome that will underscore the principles and absolutes of Scripture.

Must be:

1) Reasonable - not extreme or excessive

2) Logical - connected to wrong

2. OF INITIAL DIMENSIONS OF REAPING

Children need a harvest mentality.

There are deeper dimensions to reaping than the consequences their parents have shaped.

There is an unseen world in which God is always present. Our experience of the temporal world is not of the greatest importance - the unseen world is of the greatest importance.

II. A BIBLICAL VIEW OF REAPING

A. Relationship with God

God will not be mocked

B. Habits for life

to shake

Bad habits hard

C. Reputation

How are you considered

D. Relationship

Behavior impacts relationships

E. Long term Outcomes

Useful, god-honoring life

F. Eternal Outcomes

III. THE REAPING PROCESS

A. Ask questions to draw out

B. Remind of instruction

C. There are serious outcomes
you are reaping...

REAPING

a. Relationship with God

God will not be mocked

b. Habits for life

Bad habits hard to shake

c. Reputation

How are you considered

d. Relationship

Behavior impacts relationships

e. Long term Outcomes

Useful, god-honoring life

f. Eternal Outcomes

THE REAPING PROCESS CONT.'

D. How can I help you?

Identify with his struggle

Identify sowing to the Spirit

E. You must...you may not continue...

F. In light of what you have sown...

G. Prayer for and with him

H. Opportunity for him to respond

IV. Implications

A. Identify hollow and deceptive philosophy

1. How to get a transformed mind

a. Know the Scriptures

Deut. 32:45-47

b. Prayer

c. Self-shepherding

Deut. 6:6

d. THEN teach them to children

Psalm 34:8-11

B. The Gospel must be central

- 1. You cannot save your children**
- 2. If you try, you will damage relationships**
- 3. Hope for me and for my child is found at the foot of the cross**

Matthew 11:28-30

Philippians 2: 14 - 16

Sowing: 14 Do everything without complaining and arguing,

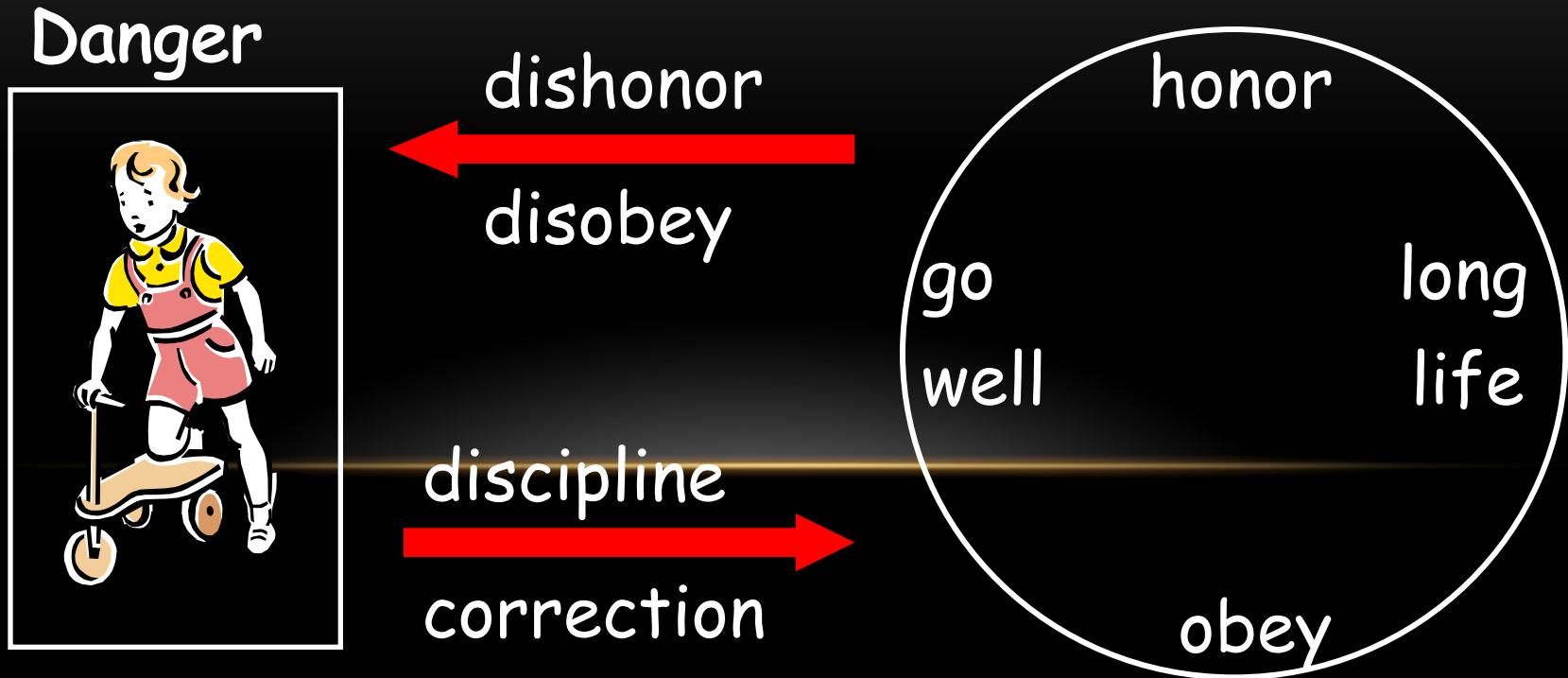
Reaping: 15 so that you may become blameless and pure (internal), children without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe

16 as you hold out the words of life (external)...

Ephesians 3: 14-21

14 For this reason, I kneel before the Father, **15** from whom his whole family in heaven and on earth derives its name. **16** I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, **17** so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, **18** may have power, together with all the saints to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, **19** and to know this love that surpasses knowledge - that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. **20** Now to him that is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, **21** to him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Ephesians 6:1 6 Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right.



Discipline - a rescue mission aimed at returning the child to the circle of blessing. The function of discipline is not punitive, but corrective. Its goal is positive not negative.