

A large shark is swimming in the clear blue water, moving from the bottom left towards the center. In the upper right, a person is kayaking on a yellow kayak. The background is a vast expanse of blue water with gentle ripples.


The Drift Factor

Hebrews 2:1-4; 12:5-11
Anthony Grove Baptist Church
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Hebrews 2:1-4

¹ We must pay the most careful attention, therefore, to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away. ² For since the message spoken through angels was binding, and every violation and disobedience received its just punishment,

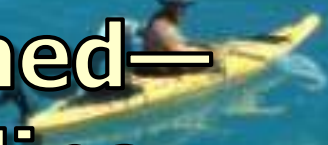
³ how shall we escape if we ignore so great a salvation? This salvation, which was first announced by the Lord, was confirmed to us by those who heard him. ⁴ God also testified to it by signs, wonders and various miracles, and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his will.-- (NIV)

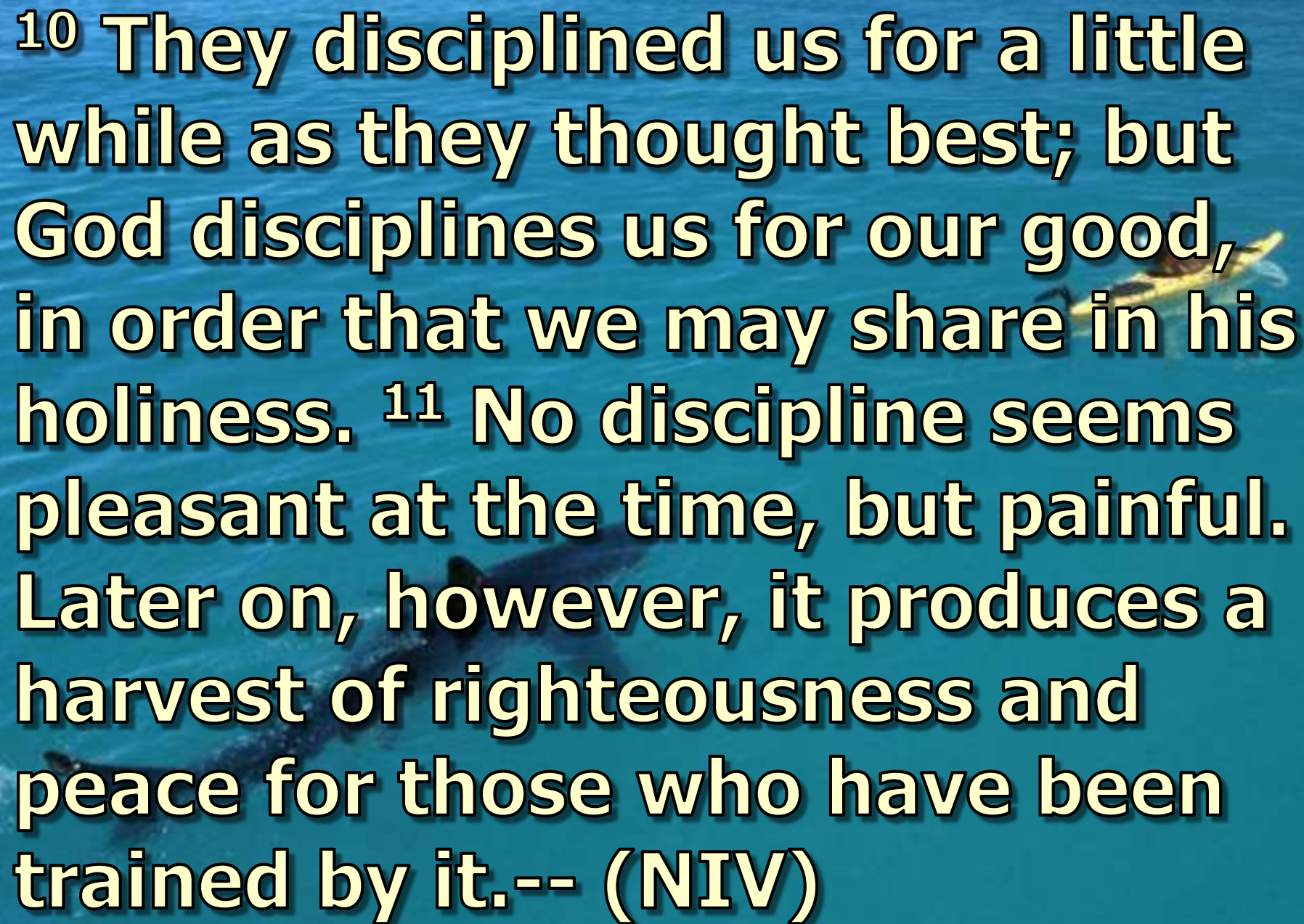
A person is seen from behind, paddling a yellow kayak on a body of blue water. The person is wearing a dark cap and a life vest. The water is a deep blue, and the background is a clear sky.

Hebrews 12:5-11

⁵ 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, ⁶ because the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and he chastens everyone he accepts as his son."

7 Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as his children. For what children are not disciplined by their father? 8 If you are not disciplined—and everyone undergoes discipline—then you are not legitimate, not true sons and daughters at all. 9 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!

A small image of a person in a yellow kayak on blue water, positioned on the right side of the text.



¹⁰ 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. ¹¹ 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.-- (NIV)

The Drift Factor



1. The Characteristics of Drifting.

A. It Is Gradual.

B. It Is Subtle.

C. It Is Unintentional.



2. The Causes of Drifting.

Hebrews 2:1¹ We must pay the most careful attention, therefore, to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away.-- (NIV)



A. **Work** Can Cause Drifting.

B. **Relationships** Can Cause Drifting.

C. **Busyness** Can Cause Drifting.

D. **Discouragement** Can Cause Drifting.

E. **Abundance** Can Cause Drifting.

3. The Correction To Drifting.

Hebrews 12:6⁶ Because the Lord corrects everyone he loves, and punishes everyone he accepts as his child."
(GNB)



A. The Reasons For Correction.

1.) It Confirms Our Identity.



Hebrews 12:6–7⁶ because the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and he chastens everyone he accepts as his son.”

⁷ Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as his children. For what children are not disciplined by their father?-- (NIV)

2.) It Corrects Our Iniquity.



Hebrews 12:5⁵ Have you forgotten the encouraging words which God speaks to you as his sons and daughters? "My child, pay attention when the Lord corrects you, and do not be discouraged when he rebukes you.-- (GNB)

B. The Routine of Correction.

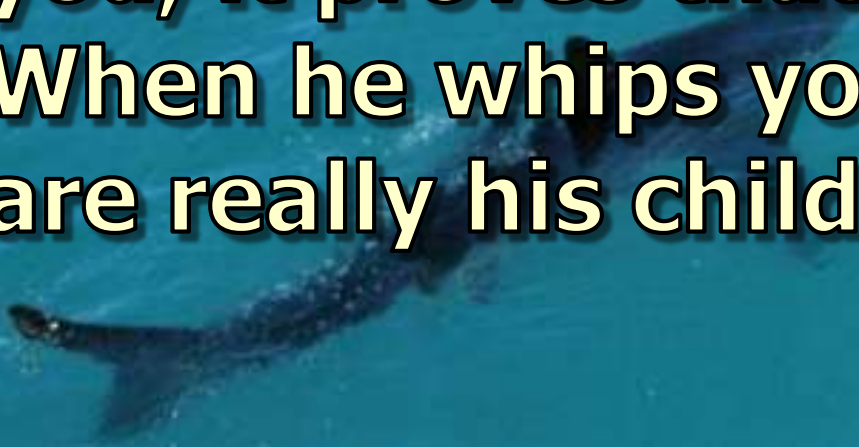


1.) God Uses Internal Conviction.

John 16:8⁸ When he comes, he will prove the world to be in the wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment:-- (NIV)

2.) God Uses External **Affliction**.

Hebrews 12:6⁶ For when he punishes you, it proves that he loves you. When he whips you, it proves you are really his child."-- (TLB)



Amos 4:6–7

⁶ “I sent you hunger,” says the Lord,
“but it did no good; you still would
not return to me. ⁷ I ruined your
crops by holding back the rain three
months before the harvest. I sent
rain on one city but not another.
While rain fell on one field, another
was dry and withered.

Amos 4:11-12

¹¹ I destroyed some of your cities, as I did Sodom and Gomorrah; those left are like half-burned firebrands snatched away from fire. And still you won't return to me," says the Lord. ¹² "Therefore, I will bring upon you all these further evils I have spoken of. Prepare to meet your God in judgment, Israel.-- (TLB)

3.) God Uses Eternal Destruction

Hebrews 12:6⁶ For those whom the Lord loves He disciplines, And He scourges every son whom He receives."-- (NASB)



1 John 5:16

¹⁶ If anyone sees his brother commit a sin that does not lead to death, he should pray and God will give him life. I refer to those whose sin does not lead to death. There is a sin that leads to death. I am not saying that he should pray about that.-- (NIV)



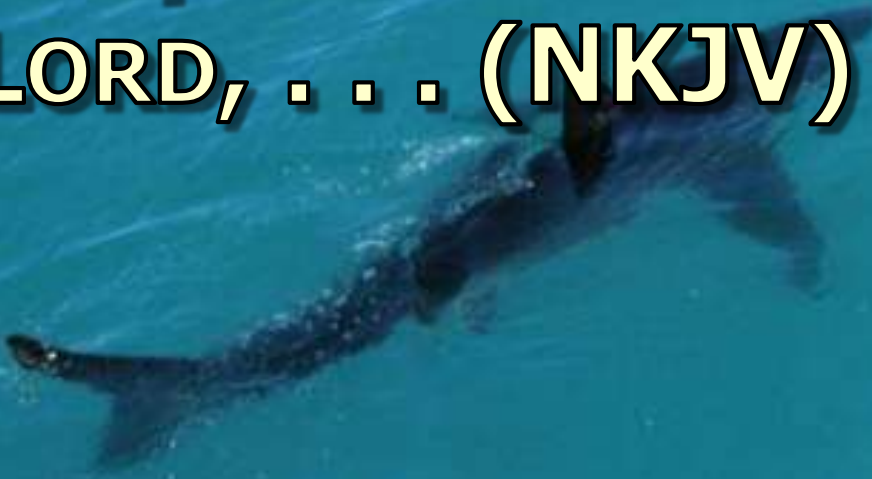
C. The Responses To Correction.



Hebrews 12:11¹¹ 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.-- (NIV)

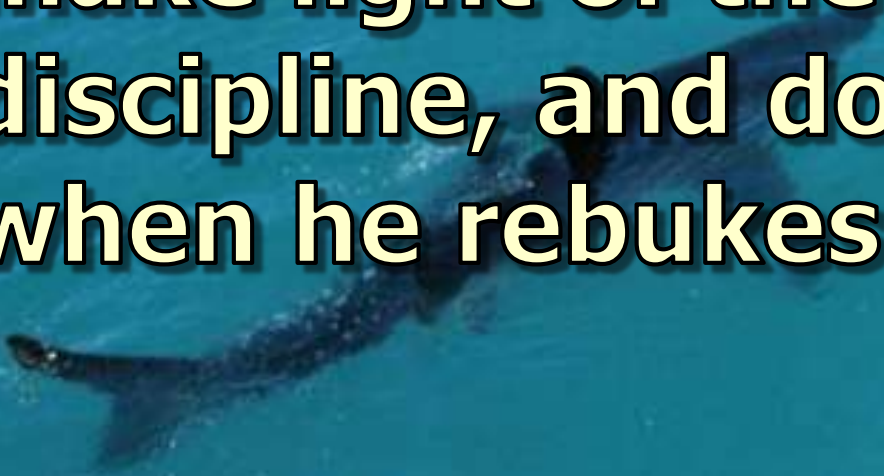
**A. You Can Resent God's
Correction.**

**Hebrews 12:5b⁵ "My son, do not
despise the chastening of the
LORD, . . . (NKJV)**



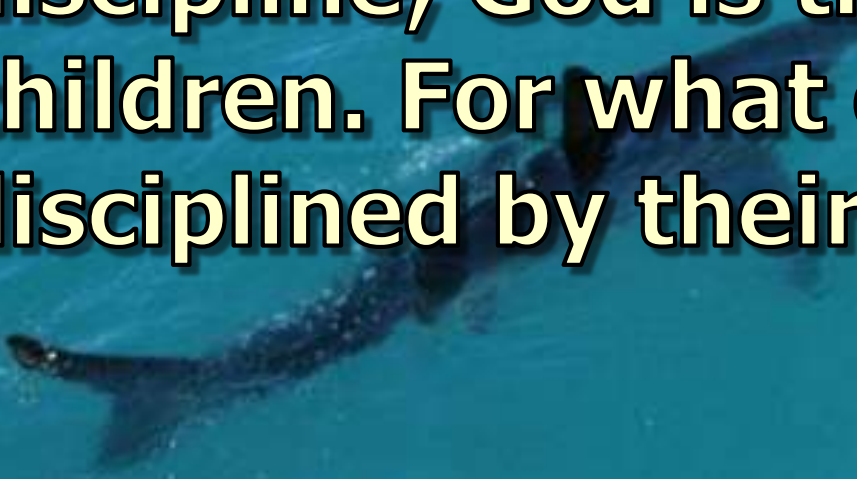
B. You Can Reject God's Correction

**Hebrews 12:5b ⁵ "My son, do not
make light of the Lord's
discipline, and do not lose heart
when he rebukes you,-- (NIV)**



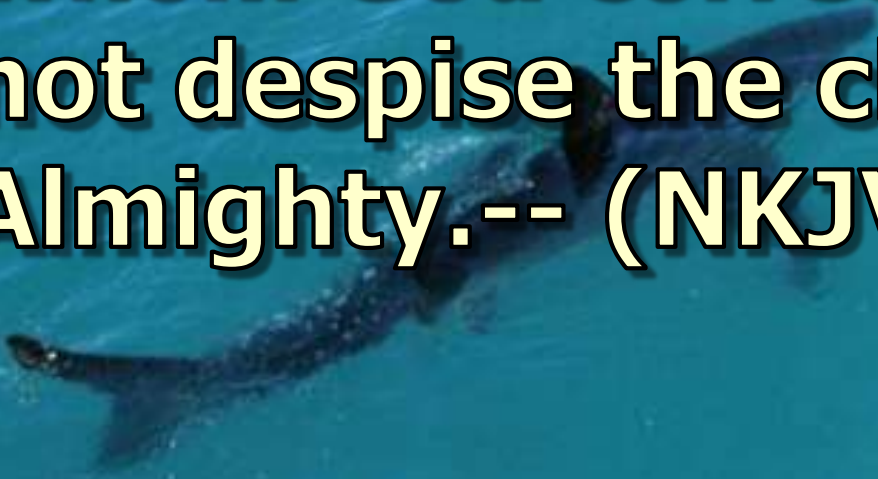
C. You Can Receive God's Correction

Hebrews 12:7⁷ Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as his children. For what children are not disciplined by their father?-- (NIV)



Job 5:17

**17 “Behold, happy is the man
whom God corrects; Therefore do
not despise the chastening of the
Almighty.-- (NKJV)**



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