

A READING FROM HEBREWS 12:5-7, 11-14

And you have forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as children—‘My child, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, or lose heart when you are punished by him; for the Lord disciplines those whom he loves, and chastises every child whom he accepts.’

Endure trials for the sake of discipline. God is treating you as children; for what child is there whom a parent does not discipline? Now, discipline always seems painful rather than pleasant at the time, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it. Therefore lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees, and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be put out of joint, but rather be healed.

The Word of the Lord.

PSALM 73:24-29 *Said in unison*

24 You will guide me by your counsel, *

and afterwards receive me with glory.

25 Whom have I in heaven but you? *

and having you I desire nothing upon earth.

26 Though my flesh and my heart should waste away, *

God is the strength of my heart and my portion for ever.

27 Truly, those who forsake you will perish; *

you destroy all who are unfaithful.

28 But it is good for me to be near God; *

I have made the Lord God my refuge.

29 I will speak of all your works *

in the gates of the city of Zion.