

Let Us *RUN* Τρέχωμεν Hebrews 12:5-6

And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us. Hebrews 12:1b (NLT)

How God works in my life as I Run

And have you forgotten the encouraging words God spoke to you as His Children? He said, "My child, don't make light of the Lord's discipline, and don't give up when He corrects you. For the Lord disciplines those He loves, and He punishes (chastens) each one He accepts as His child." Hebrews 12:5-6 (NLT)

1. He becomes the "loving Father/Coach" of my life.

Even before He made the world, God <u>loved us</u> and <u>chose us in Christ</u> to be Holy and without fault in His eyes. God decided in advance **to adopt** us into **His own family** by bringing us to Himself through Jesus Christ. This is what **He wanted to do, and it gave Him great pleasure. Ephesians 1:4-5 (NLT)**

But to all who believed Him (Jesus) and accepted Him (Jesus), He gave the right to become children of God. John 1:12 (NLT)

"My Child"

2. He becomes "<u>Actively"</u> involved and engaged in helping me <u>Run</u> <u>Well</u>.

"My child, don't make light of the Lord's discipline, and don't give up when He corrects you. For the Lord disciplines those He loves...

So now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus. Romans 8:1 (NLT)

Punishment is about addressing failure.

Discipline is about training for <u>success</u>.

As you endure this divine discipline, remember that God is treating you as his own children. Who ever heard of a child who is never disciplined by its father? If God doesn't discipline you as he does all of his children it means that you are illegitimate and are not really his children at all. Since we respected our earthly fathers who disciplined us, shouldn't we submit even more to the discipline of the Father of our spirits, and live forever? For our earthly fathers disciplined us for a few years, doing the best they knew how. But God's discipline is always good for us, so that we might share in his holiness. No discipline is enjoyable while it is happening—it's painful! But afterward there will be a peaceful harvest of right living for those who are trained in this way. **Heb. 12:7-11 (NLT)**

My role as a runner

1. I must Accept and Adjust my life to His training.

My child, don't make light of the Lord's discipline, and don't give up when He corrects you...

No discipline is enjoyable while it is happening—it's painful! But afterward there will be a peaceful harvest of right living for those who are trained in this way. **Hebrews 12:11 (NLT)**

Going deeper on your own. Read Hebrews chapter 11, and 12:1-12, 5 times in a row slowly then answer the following questions. Who am I living my life for? What difference will it make in eternity? What difficulties am I facing in my life right now? What is the cause of these difficulties? How can it be redeemed? Read Romans 8:28. What is my responsibility in that promise? A dear Christ following friend of mine has taught me a valuable lesson. After going through a heartbreaking experience, she said she understands that everything will be fine, but you can't skip to the fine, you have to go through the journey. With that in mind what is the value of the journey?