

Problem: Could not see in spiritual lives what they easily saw in physical lives. Honor of son to father. Honor of servant to master. Honor of citizen to governor. Malachi: God is your Father, Master, Governor.



Problem: Physical father did it, we totally see the benefits; God does it, and we fail to see the spiritual benefits.

> Discipline administered by earthly fathers.

Hebrews: God is your Father who benefits you with His discipline.



Question: Why is it so hard to see in spiritual life what we easily see in physical life?
➢ Our minds seem more in tune with physical needs and woes than spiritual needs and woes. John 6:24-27 – Perishable over enduring.
Mat. 9:10-13 – Physicians over Great Physician.



Question: Why is it so hard to see in spiritual life what we easily see in physical life? \succ We tend to give priority to the most immediate over the most important. "Delay discounting" – prefer immediate reward, discount value of delayed reward. Gal. 6:8-10 – Delay discounting promotes weariness.



Biblical Answers to Our Problem: 2 Cor. 4:18-19 – Value unseen over seen. \succ Heb. 12:1 – Lay aside every weight. Rom. 12:2 – Not conformed, but transformed. Col. 3:2 – Set mind on things above. \succ Eph. 6:4 – Children's spiritual training a priority.



What are You Going to Do?

When kids and you are worn out when time comes to get ready for worship or Bible class?

"While we do not look at the things that are seen, but at the things that are not seen. For the things that are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal."



What are You Going to Do?

When you worked a full day and are tired, and Wed. night Bible study comes around.

"Let us lay aside every weight . . . And let us run with endurance the race that is set before us."



What are You Going to Do?

When your favorite non-Christian kinfolks are at your house, and time for worship or Bible study rolls around.

"Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you might prove what is . . . the will of God."



What are You Going to Do?

When you have the choice to work a little overtime for extra money, or get off and attend worship service or Bible class.

"Set your mind on things above, not on things on this earth."



What are You Going to Do?

When one of your kids decides that they want to live under your roof, but they do not want to go to church.

"And you fathers . . . Bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord."



3 John 2 – "Brethren, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers."

Here's how you find out if you are really doing good enough spiritually:

The approach you take with your church? Just try that with your boss!