DISCIPLINED CHILDREN
Eph. 6:1-9; Col. 3:18-4:1

Introduction:
A. Parents must accept responsibility for child rearing: Care and training.
   1. Others may assist, but cannot shift responsibility and authority to others -not even the church.
   2. Nor, may others assume responsibility and authority.
B. Parents must discipline them "in the Lord". (Eph. 6:4).
   1. As opposed to little or no discipline: Of psychologists, public opinion, grandparents.
   2. As opposed to excessive and abusive discipline: the real point of our text.
C. Parents need to study three aspects of discipline.

Discussion:
II. It's Complex Nature. (Heb. 12:11)
   A. An element of instruction. (Paid-eia; -utees; -uo)
      1. Paidion = Children, young children.
      4. Paiduo: Lk. 23:16,22; Acts 7:22; 22:3; 1 Cor. 11"32; 2 Cor. 6:9; 1 Tim. 1:20; 2 Tim. 2:25; Tit. 2:12; Heb. 12:6,7,10; Rev. 3:19).
   B. An element of restriction. (v. 5; cf 1 Sam. 2:12,22-26; 3:11-14).
   D. An element of affection. (v. 6; Prov. 13:24).

III. It's Compassionate Purposes.
   A. To signal love and acceptance. (Heb. 12:7-9).
   B. To correct rather than merely control. (Heb. 12:9).
   C. To insure future happiness and righteousness. (Heb. 12:11).
      1. Undisciplined child has problems in real world - miserable and makes others so.
      2. Undisciplined child has problems with disciplining himself to be faithful to Lord. (Eph. 6:4).
   D. To impress seriousness of wrong-doing by feeling pain.
      1. Contrary to positive alternative approach.
      2. Contrary to "mommy angry", but won't hurt you approach.
      3. Contrary to no guilt feelings approach.

IV. It's Careful Administration. (cf. 1 Tim. 3:4-5).
   A. General principles of Christianity cannot be set aside in child-discipline.
   B. Child-discipline that conforms to principles will be effective and without abuse.
      2. Reasonable. (cf. Jas. 1:19; Col. 3:21; Phil. 4:5).
      3. Consistent. (cf. Jas. 1:8; Matt. 11:18,19) - Consistent policy w/ both parents.
      5. Humility. (cf. Gal. 6:1). If make mistake admit it, say "I am sorry".

Conclusion:
A. Teach - Train - Discipline.
B. His future usefulness and yours in church could depend on it.