

Don't Be Stupid

Whoever loves discipline loves knowledge,
but he who hates correction is stupid. Proverbs 12:1

If, and as, our view of Christian disciplines is **what we self-righteously do to please God**, we will eventually give them up – God will certainly not give His grace to successfully develop them!

When, on the other hand, we rightly see them as **a means of blessing ourselves**, we can expect God's grace and be far more likely to successfully implement, refine and continue in them – Oh, and by the way, this WILL please God!

Bible • Prayer • Repentance • Church

If these don't result in a change of attitudes, desires, goals, friends, "works" . . . start over – you are doing something seriously wrong!

And that voice you hear – "You aren't getting anything out of this . . . this is a waste of time . . . You aren't concentrating . . . How can you expect to get anything out of this since you are such a hypocrite . . . You need to be doing something useful . . ." – these are from the devil, desperate to discourage and get you off-track. These are GOOD signs, not bad, that you are on the right track.

In the same way exercise works on and builds up the physical body (with consistent, small, practiced disciplines) the spirit is built, maintained and enhanced by the above spiritual disciplines. Doing one, without the others, will do a little, but since spiritual (like physical) disciplines work synergistically, adding the second more than doubles the effect, the third is more than nine times as effective and all four, provide more than 16 times the benefit! Why settle for "just a little" when much more is easily (by grace) available?

Make hay while the sun shines – that is smart;
Go fishing during harvest – that's stupid. Proverbs 10:5 The Message

The sun is now shining – now is the time to harvest for eternity!