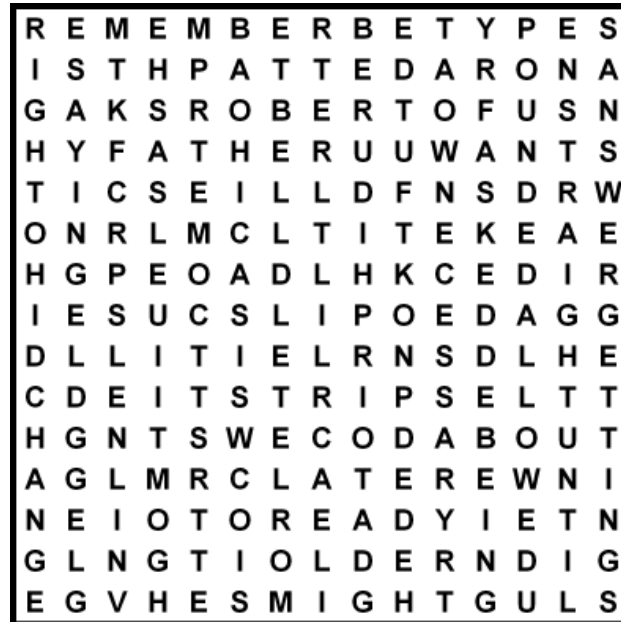


Each word which is in bold font and underlined in the text below may be found in the grid of letters. They might be found from left to right, right to left, top to bottom, bottom to top or diagonally. After all the bolded and underlined words are found the remaining unused letters in the grid will spell a special message.

## Reasons For Discipline



**Robert** watched as his dad **pounded** a post into the ground **close** to a young tree and then ripped old pieces of **cloth** into **strips**, **getting ready** to tie the tree to the post. "Why do you have to do that?" Robert **asked**.

If I don't, Dad answered, "this tree will not be tall and **straight** when it grows up." He put his hand on the **small** tree **trunk**. "See how it's beginning to lean to the left? If I don't **correct** that now, it will keep on leaning **until** it'll be too late to correct it."

When Dad finished the job, Robert **patted** the tree, a grin on his face. "Don't take it too hard, **little** tree," he said playfully. "It **might** hurt now, but you'll be glad **later**."

Is that the way you feel when I have to straighten you out on certain things? his **father** asked with a **smile**.

What do you mean? asked Robert in surprise.

Well, when I see you doing things that aren't very Christ-like, it's my responsibility to correct you and help you **change** your ways, explained Dad. "Are you glad I do that?"

Robert didn't **answer** immediately. He **could remember** several spankings he had received when he was younger. He hadn't **liked** that, but he guessed they had worked. Remembering the **sting** of the spankings had been enough to keep him from repeating his wrong-doings. Now that he was **older**, he dreaded other **types** of punishment -- **being** grounded, not being **allowed** to watch TV, being assigned extra duties. **Those** things **still helped** to keep him from doing **wrong**. "I don't particularly like to discipline you," Dad was **saying**, "but if I'm going to be the kind of father you can be **proud** of, and if you're going to be the kind of son I can be proud of -- and the kind of person God **wants** you to be -- it's sometimes **necessary**."

Robert knew his dad was **right**. "Yeah, I'm glad you correct me," he said with a grin. "Just don't ask me how I feel **about** it when it's happening!"

### HOW ABOUT YOU?

How do you feel when one of your parents must correct you for wrong-doing? Do you get angry and resentful? God says correction is necessary to make you what you ought to be. After the "sting" of discipline is over, see if you can't be thankful for what happened.

TODAY'S KEY VERSE: (Proverbs 19:18)

Chasten (correct). . .while there is hope.

Used by permission of CBH Ministries, P. O. 1001, Grand Rapids, MI 49501 (June 4, 1997 Keys For Kids).