

# OCTOBER

## Kiddie Prep School News

### Family Devotional

This month at KPS we have been learning about Composure and the people in the Bible who showed this character trait. The following devotional is one of our Composure stories we studied.

One day, Jesus and some of his disciples were out on a lake in a boat. Suddenly, without warning, a storm came up. The wind blew so hard, and the waves were so high, that water was coming into the boat and the boat was about to be turned over.

While the winds and waves tossed the little boat about, Jesus slept peacefully at one end of the boat. Some of the disciples became upset that Jesus was sleeping. They went and woke Jesus, and asked him, "Master, don't you even care that we are about to drown?"

Jesus got up and spoke to the winds and the waves.

"Peace, be still," he said. As soon as he spoke, the winds stopped blowing and the sea became calm.

Jesus' disciples were amazed! They said, "Who is this man that even the winds and the waves obey him?"

We know who Jesus is, don't we? And we know that Jesus can still calm storms today. Sometimes, there are sudden storms in our life. Perhaps it is an illness, a family problem, or the death of a friend or loved one. During these times, Jesus can calm the storms of doubt and fear in our life. He doesn't always take away all of the problems, but if we will trust in him, he will give us peace in our hearts even in the middle of a storm.

Heavenly Father, we thank you for those times when you calm the storms that come up in our daily lives. We also thank you for those times when you give us peace even though we are in the middle of a storm. We ask you to watch over us and keep us safe. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen

### Take Note!!!

- Please be sure to bring in a family photo for your child's class
- Please be sure to have a change of clothes in your child's backpack for the fall season! INCLUDING EXTRA SHOES!
- October 30th : Classroom Harvest Parties during school day (NO COSTUMES)
- October 30th: Trunk-R-Treat (Grace Point) 6:30-8:00 Costumes Encouraged

### Prayer Requests

Have a prayer need? We'd love to be praying for you!

Stop by the office and share your prayer request with us or email Mrs. Carrie at [chilty@gpnaz.org](mailto:chilty@gpnaz.org)—let us know if you would also like us to share it in the Newsletter for others to be praying for as well.

*"For where two or three have gathered together in My name, I am there in their midst." Matthew 18:20*

# October Article

## What the Bible Says about Discipline

The second case study I want us to look at doesn't come from sociological research but from inspired Scripture. The subject is a group of spiritual children, Jewish Christians who are rebelling and pulling away from Christ. They are suffering persecution and wondering if the Christian life is worth the trouble. They know the right thing to do — maintain faith in Jesus. But that seems too hard, so they're crossing their arms and turning away. We can listen in on God's response to these Christians in Hebrews 12:1-11. This is how God disciplines His children. (By the way, any time you see God operating as a parent in Scripture, take note. If you're the kind of parent to your children that God is to His, you're right on target.) After a brief introduction, the writer of Hebrews reminds his readers that they have "not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood" in their struggle against sin (v. 4). He also reminds them that God calls them "sons" and encourages them as such (v. 5-6). After all, they're Jewish believers who are very familiar with the Old Testament, so they know the encouragement God has already given in Proverbs 3:11-12: "My son, do not despise the LORD's discipline and do not resent his rebuke, because the LORD disciplines those he loves, as a father the son he delights in." In other words, he acknowledges that they're going through a hard time and suggests they consider whether that hard time is a matter of God's discipline. If it is, it's only because God delights in His children. Then the writer gets to his main teaching: "Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as sons. For what son is not disciplined by his father? If you are not disciplined (and everyone undergoes discipline), then you are illegitimate children and not true sons. Moreover, we have all had human fathers who disciplined us and we respected them for it. How much more should we submit to the Father of our spirits and live!" (vv. 7-9). The passage gives a very human illustration: "Our fathers disciplined us for a little while as they thought best; but God disciplines us for our good, that we may share in his holiness" (v. 10). The point? "No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it" (v. 11). Do you see what Scripture is saying here? Far from being a dirty word, discipline is evidence of love. When you consistently discipline your child and do it with the right attitude — compassionately, under control, with consistent boundaries and consequences, and focused on the child's best outcome — you are expressing love exactly as God sometimes expresses His love. It may seem uncomfortable both to you and your child at the time, but in the long run, it's the most selfless, compassionate thing you can do to set your child up for happiness in life and fruitfulness in God's Kingdom. The Bible's perspective on discipline is affirmed by what many psychologists and sociologists are now learning about child development: that children left to themselves will do what all people left to themselves in a fallen world will do. They'll make bad decisions that produce pain and turmoil in their lives. Relationships won't work right, money will be mismanaged and debt will pile up, conflict will erupt both within and without, and long-term goals will never be realized. So God tells the Hebrew Christians that the adversity they face comes from His loving hand, not because they're bad, but because He wants the best for them. That's our motivation as parents as well.