



DAD'S CLASS

BEING A FAITHFUL FATHER
AND SHEPHERDING YOUR FAMILY WELL.

WEEK FOUR

DISCIPLINE: PRODUCING A HARVEST OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

TEACHING NOTES:

WEEK 4 TO DOs: Discipline Assessment with Spouse

- Homework for Week 5
- Discipline Assessment
 - *Complete the discipline assessment with your wife.*
 - *Pray for God to give you insight into how He wants you to grow in this area.*
 - *Be ready to discuss in your small group.*



SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

1. Did you learn anything new as you reviewed God's heart towards discipline? How about God's heart for physical discipline?
2. What is the most difficult part of discipline for you and your spouse?
3. What is one thing you learned from the talk this morning that you want to apply this week in how you discipline your kids?
4. As you think about parenting your kids, do you lean towards leniency or legalism in your discipline? Why do you respond the way you do?
5. What is your response to those who are courageous enough to have those sharpening conversations with you? Why do you respond that way?
6. Share with your small group your insights on God's heart as He disciplines those He loves?



HOMEWORK FOR WEEK 5

1. Know well the condition of your flocks, and pay attention to your herds. Proverbs 27:3

a. How does this verse apply to the condition of your kids?

b. How would you describe the condition of your flock today?

c. Why is it your responsibility to run your fingers through the wool of your kids' lives and be aware of any illness, injury, attitudes, and/or harmful activities?

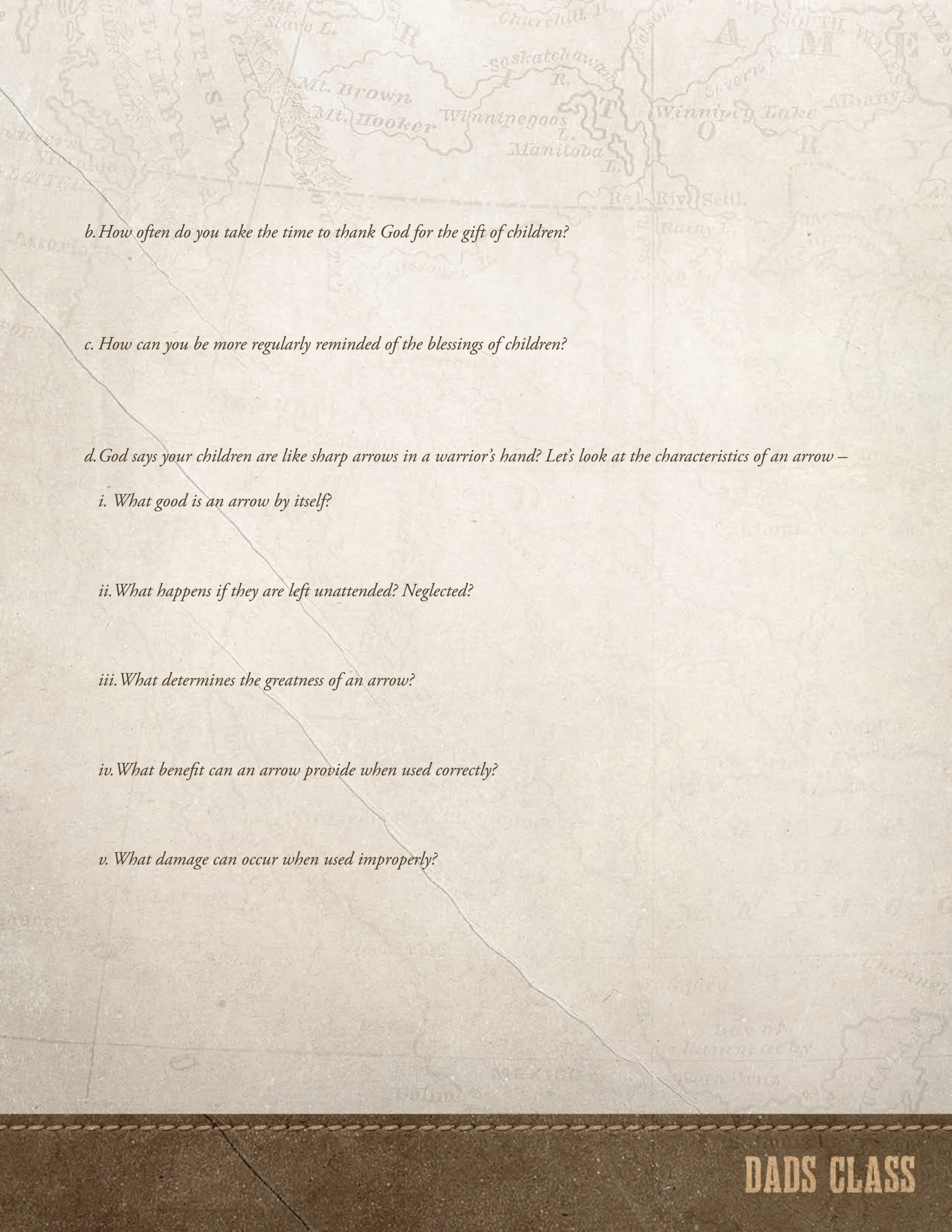
2. The soul of the sluggard craves and gets nothing, but the soul of the diligent is made fat. Proverbs 13:4

a. What role does laziness and passivity play in your parenting?

b. How can you initiate with your family so they get your best time and energy instead of your "leftovers"?

3. Read Psalm 127:3-5.

a. List out the blessings of having children.



b. How often do you take the time to thank God for the gift of children?

c. How can you be more regularly reminded of the blessings of children?

d. God says your children are like sharp arrows in a warrior's hand? Let's look at the characteristics of an arrow –

i. What good is an arrow by itself?

ii. What happens if they are left unattended? Neglected?

iii. What determines the greatness of an arrow?

iv. What benefit can an arrow provide when used correctly?

v. What damage can occur when used improperly?



DISCIPLINE PLAN ASSESSMENT

1. What is your family's current strategy for disciplining your children?

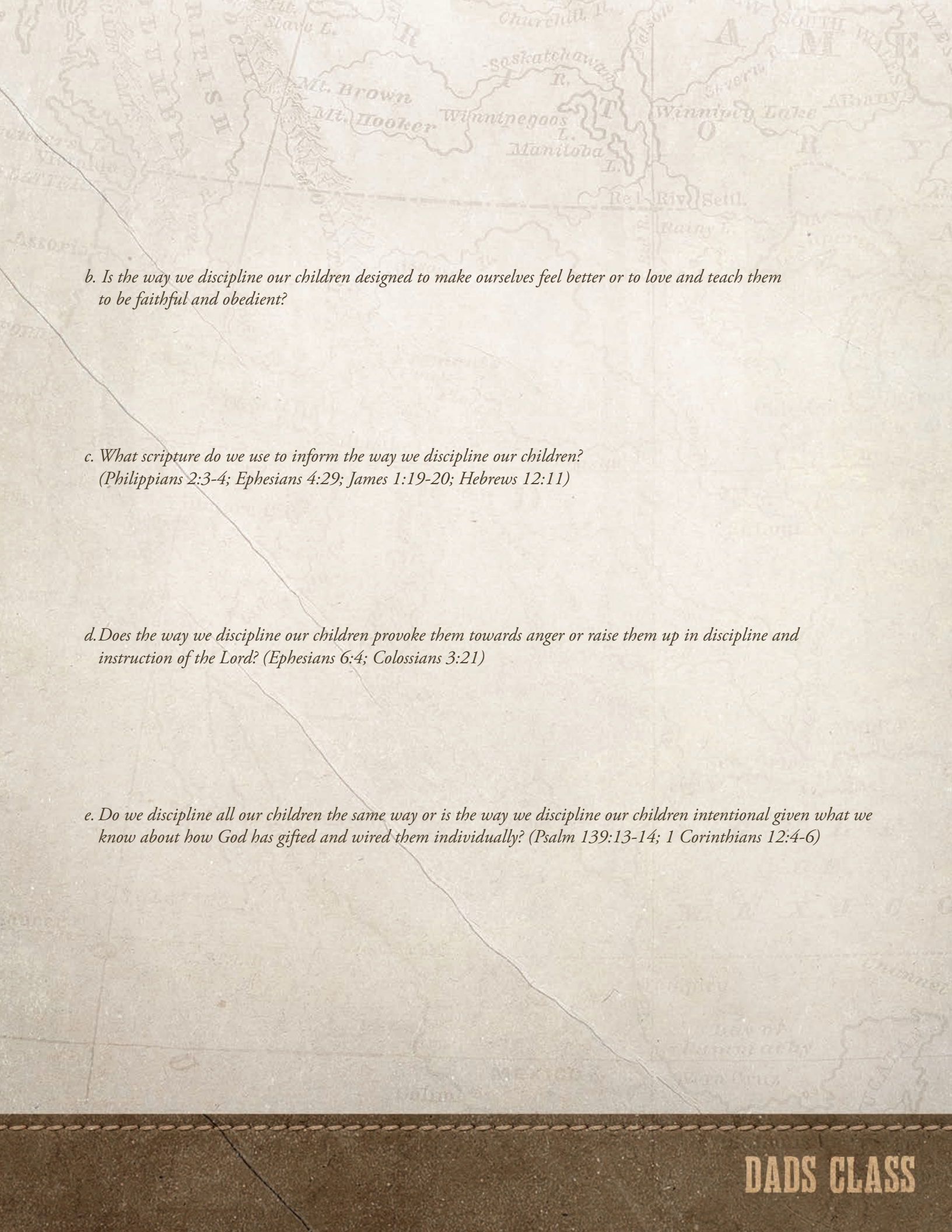
a. How would you describe your approach in disciplining your child? Is it different from your wife's approach?

b. Is it the same for all your children if you have more than one?

c. Are you currently using physical discipline? Consequences and loss of privileges? Both? Something else?

2. Answer the following questions based on the discipline plan you outlined above in Question 1. As you answer, look up the scripture references to see what God's word says about these areas:

a. Do we typically discipline out of a heart of anger or out of a heart of love? Are we consistent with how God disciplines us? (James 1:19-20; Proverbs 3:12; 1 Corinthians 16:14)

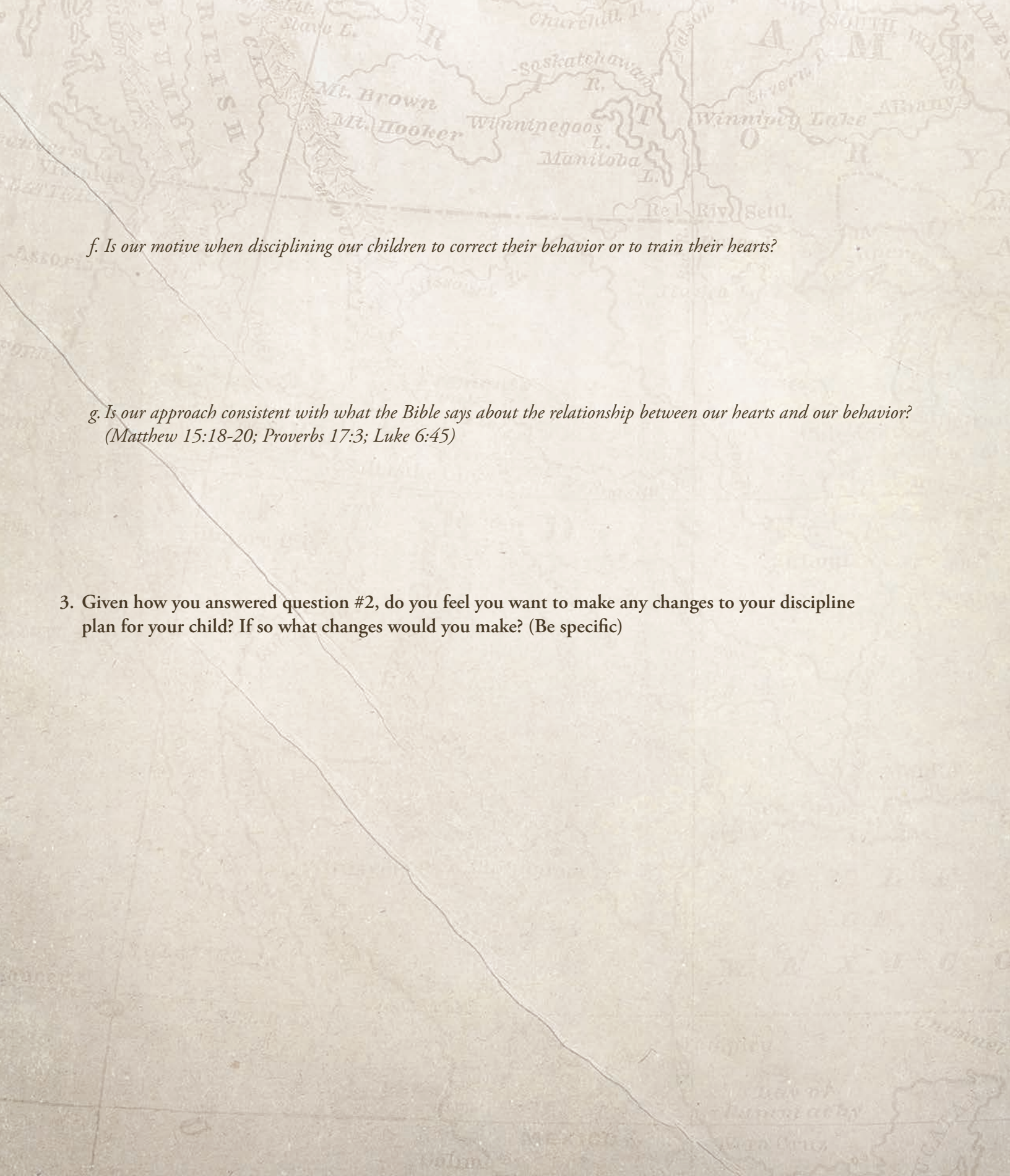


b. Is the way we discipline our children designed to make ourselves feel better or to love and teach them to be faithful and obedient?

*c. What scripture do we use to inform the way we discipline our children?
(Philippians 2:3-4; Ephesians 4:29; James 1:19-20; Hebrews 12:11)*

d. Does the way we discipline our children provoke them towards anger or raise them up in discipline and instruction of the Lord? (Ephesians 6:4; Colossians 3:21)

e. Do we discipline all our children the same way or is the way we discipline our children intentional given what we know about how God has gifted and wired them individually? (Psalm 139:13-14; 1 Corinthians 12:4-6)



f. *Is our motive when disciplining our children to correct their behavior or to train their hearts?*

g. *Is our approach consistent with what the Bible says about the relationship between our hearts and our behavior?*
(Matthew 15:18-20; Proverbs 17:3; Luke 6:45)

3. Given how you answered question #2, do you feel you want to make any changes to your discipline plan for your child? If so what changes would you make? (Be specific)