Reproofs of Instruction Are A Way of Life!

NOTES BY THE TEENS FROM SARA'S TALKS ON CORRECTION!

From Leah (Age 13 1/2-14):

Taking correction was something that I really had to work on during my stay at Grandpa's house. When I came I really had a problem with 1t, & almost every time anybody would correct me I would immediately start justifying myself. PTL, with a lot of help in realizing the error of my ways, I've been able to learn some lessons along that line. But even now I still have to guard against it.

If you know you have a weakness in that area it's important to really guard against it. Whenever someone is giving you a correction on something, it helps to pray, & say, "Lord, help me to take this. Help me not to have any justification in my heart." Just really pray & say, "Yes Sir!" or "Yes Ma'ami" & try not to have anything to add to what they tell you. Hear the lesson out all the way!

One thing that really helped me was when Auntie Sara said, "You all look at correction as if somebody's mad at you or punishing or persecuting you, but correction is just instruction, it's part of your training. You only need correction if you don't take heed to instruction. The avsrage day here at our home is full of instruction. Our goal is not to pass a day without instruction. If you work in the kitchen you're going to get loads of instructions from our head cook, & you should thank her for telling you things, as she's trying to help you & teach & train you. That's her job-to teach cooking, & if you don't do it quite right, she <u>corrects</u> you." It was a real eye opener to see how correction is just instruction & it's all for our own benefit. If we look at it like it's a big punishment or we feel like we're being picked on, then we just can't learn anything from what the person is trying to tell us. If we have a lot of instruction we should be thankful, & not feel like, "Oh no, I had so many corrections today, I really blew it." Well, thank the Lord! We should be really <u>thankful</u> if we get lots of in-struction in the day because that shows we're learning something! But if we don't have any instruction, or correction, we should start to wonder if something's wrong If we're really progressing & learning! That's the best way to learn, is from our mistakes, or someone else's! Everyone needs glidance & instruction all the time & that's what our whole life is about, learning, &

teaching others tool

Something that I used to think was that adults never get correction. Then when 1 would get correction I would think, "Oh no, now they think I'm just a kid!" Aunt Sara said, "If you think that adults attain to never having correction, you're mistaken! We get correction every day of our lives through the Word or our leadership or each other or the Lord Himself! So you'd better get used to it now if you want to learn to an adult disciple!" So It's just be something we can expect & something we should be thankful for.

Thinking that people are mad at us when we get corrected, & are persecuting us, is really a way that the Devil likes to get into our thoughts, to make us not receive, & make us justify ourselves in our hearts, & then it finally comes out of our mouth.

It's actually really ridiculous when I come to think of it, because I was there to learn. I wasn't there to prove to everyone how "good" I thought I was, but I was there to <u>learn</u> as much as I could. So I had to learn that taking correction is just some thing we have to expect & even <u>appreciate</u>I We have so much to learn & we're going to have to do it the rest of our lives. We're never going to attain to sinless perfection.

I learned that it's really selfrighteousness not to be willing to take correction from others. It's because you think that you're better & know better than the person who's correcting you. It really helped when they gave me some reading assignments on taking correction & not justifying myself. I also memorized some verses & quotes from the MDP under "Selfrighteousness."



Aunt Sara told us, "Through correction & instruction you can either be provoked to try harder & to do good for the Lord, or you can sit back & harden your heart & murmur."--Which I found myself doing, & it's a real real bad habit to get into & a real hindrance of the Enemy because it really stunts our growth in the Lord if we're corr stantly justifying ourselves.

In FSM 16 I read Faithy's reaction called, "Study To Be Quiet". It's very good about the lesson she learnt, & how she was able to take correction.

"We're not judging you by how much correction you get," Aunt Sara said, "but by how you receive the correction you get. We expect you to get corrected every day, but what you do with that correction is up to you, & the attitude you receive it in, good or bad, will bear good or bad fruit."

It was really a blessing that whenever I would justify they would remind me & tell me I was justifying myself. This really helped me, though it took quite a few times & quite a lot to help me to stop justifying myself. I blew it lots of times when I thought I got the victory. But this takes time, & God bless everyone who was helping me, they just kept on going & didn't lose faith in me, but just kept reminding me & helping me.

One thing that really helped me whenever I got corrected was to just stop & pray & just say, "Dear Jesus, please help me to receive this correction. They're right. I'm wrong. Lord help me, I should have done better, but since I didn't, help me to receive this well-deserved correction & to learn from what they're telling me & tune in to what they're saying & say 'Yes Sir' & 'Yes Ma'am'." I'd really try & receive It in my heart & listen to the good counsel.

If some things are not quite right, or the person that's correcting you doesn't have their story straight, it doesn't matter! Just listen to what they say & take it anyway. The Lord will bless you for it.

Again, the Word really helps. I had many Word reading assignments on this subject which really helped pull me through this lesson. Also the memory verses on self-righteousness that I memorised were really a strength to me & really pulled me through & helped me to realize the seriousness of the situation.

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These are some very good verses in the MOP under "Righteousness/Self-Righteousness" that I memorised:

Job 9:20 "If I justify myself, mine own mouth shall condemn me. If I say, I am perfect, It shall also prove me perverse." Prov 20:6 "Most men will proclaim every one his own goodness, but a faithful man who can find?"

Prov 21:2 "Every way of a man is right in his own eyes, but the Lord pondereth the hearts."

Prov 30:12 "There is a generation that are

pure in their own eyes, & yet is not washed from their filthiness." In other words, if you think you're so pure in your own eyes, then it doesn't leave room for the Lord to wash you from your sins. I really like this verse, as it really spoke to me. You're just hurting yourself in the long run if you're denying yourself correction by justifying yourself & making it hard on the people who are trying to help you.

Some of us who came to Grandpa's house had a few problems with justifying ourselves when corrected & this resulted in some of the other children there who had never had that problem before, starting to pick up on it & they started to justify themselves when they were corrected. It's very contagious & it's something that we had to stop especially for the children's sake. Especially when the children are younger it's so important that we show a good sample of receiving correction from the adults, so as to be a good sample to the younger children.

It's also so important not to justify ourselves with each other, but to take instructions from one another, even the younger children.-Just to take it. It's even a more "special" test the Lord gives to see if we'll justify ourselves or take correction & instruction from people younger than us or on our same level. Because sometimes we would take correction & say, "Yes, Ma'am" or "Yes, Sir" to the adults, but when the children were suggesting something to us we'd justify ourselves. The Lord sees how we are with "the least of these, My brethren"-the youngest. We should believe it's right & we should really take it & not be too proud to take instruction & correction even from the younger children. Love, Leah (written after returning to a field home)

"This is one reason why we really need to confess our sins-because it really helps keep us humble! It helps you to be honest with yourself. And if you're honest with yourself, you will be honest with the Lord, your loved ones & those around you!

"This takes humility of the kind only God can give, because the flesh is not willing to do these things! It's always vindicating itself, protecting itself, justifying itself & trying to prove it can do it.—The flesh likes to think of itself as all-powerful, all-knowing, all-seeing, & that there are no alps! Because it's just the inborn nature of man to want the glory & so be unable to confess." (New Life!—New Love!:117,118)

NOTES BY NAOMI-FROM SARA ON CORRECTION!

From Nacmi:

-- If we still have problems yielding & submitting & receiving, then we haven't accomplished our goal here.

---If you went to another place, what would people judge you by?--Your overall attitude & sample most of all.

-The rest of your day usually goes according to the beginning of your day, & your word time & prayer time.

--We're going to work on not justifying ourselves & on hearing & receiving & understanding. (Mt.13:23, Luke 8:15)

-Our goal is not to train you to be leaders, but to be followers first, or you'll never be a leader if you can't be a follower.

-You can't lead others until you've learned the basic lessons yourself, & you learn from us, when we correct or instruct you.

-- If you don't want to be told, then do It without being told!

---If you're getting a lot of correction, have you asked the Lord why? Are they reproving you or are they instructing you? Maybe you're doing something wrong, haven't had your prayer time & are out of it, but is that good? <u>Should</u> we let it pass, or <u>help</u> you learn your lesson?

-You can either be provoked to try harder to do good through correction & instruction, or you can sit back & harden your heart & murmur.

--We expect you to get corrected, maybe even every day. If you don't, something must be wrong with you or with others who aren't teaching & training you right.

-You're doing well if you can take correction!-It's <u>instruction</u>, & training & should provoke you to do better!

-we're not here to please you, we're here to get the job done, & you're here to learn <u>how</u> to, from us.

—You have got to realise we're in a war, & every day we're fighting a battle, but we're winning!

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-A major lesson of your being here is your sample to the other kids. If you live in a group & you have a little problem, it's bound to affect others. "No man liveth to himself." When any of your problem areas or bad attitudes start affecting the other kids



here, then it's gone way too far. Your justification is starting to affect some of the others who never did it before. Did you know that justifying is blaming others.--It's saying "You're wrong to blame me.--Poor mei i'm right & I'll prove it to you!"

--I'm very concerned that if you justify yourselves to me so much, how much more do you do it when you're on your own, with each other, & I'm not around? You teens have actually taught the other children to lie & talk back & justify & deceive. You already justify yourselves freely to the other kids, & even to us when you're off guard, & one day you may even do it to Grandpa & Mommy. I can't even trust you to be with the younger children alone because you're a bad sample to them. The Lord knows what's going on behind our backs, & let me warn you, the Lord is always faithful, sconer or later, to let us know! "By their fruits ye shall know them."-And it's already bearing bad fruit.

--You're a hyporite if you know the rules, but disobey them, & flaunt it in front of others. First of all, you <u>choose</u> to disobey, then you decide to turn around & poison the next one. "Those that do evil & teach men so, the same shall be the least in the Kingdom of Heaven." This is a warning to you. Now let me tell you, if any of you see another of you justifying or contending or disobeying, you had better report it or write me a note about it, or you are just as guilty!

-You need to get it through your heads that "tattle-taleing" is Family policy! We are living & dying for God's Truth, so if we can't be truthful ourselves, we're going against Family policy! If you're already being deceitful to God, who's to say you don't do it to others too? If you went to another Home with other kids who knew that you had been with the Folks, you could be like teen terrors, teaching them all your bad habits, & they'd probably follow you, thinking you came from the Folks' house, so it must be okay. People will copy the "bad" in you more than the "good". Anywhere you go from here you are going to become leaders whether you are put in the position or not. You'll either lead them in the right way or you'll lead them astray.

The thing I'm most upset about is this hypocrisy. You should be in fear & trembling about your sample around younger children! Jesus says it's better to be drowned than to stumble one little child (Mat.18:5,6)! One thing you don't have enough of is the fear God! If any one of you see of any misbehaviour, you'd better tell me or Uncle Mark! If you don't report it, that means you're agreeing with it & you're two-fold more a child of evil than they are. I want you all to see the responsibility of living here in this house & being around any of God's children! You'd better not open your mouths in defiance to anybody, no matter who it is! You are leading others right now, whether good or bad. If you are with another person & you're older or more accountable, you're a leader! The covering up is the worst thing. Just be sorry for your sins & mistakes & stop doing them, but for God's sake, don't cover up! You won't even learn a lesson from it that way!

Ananias & Sapphira in the Bible withheld, then agreed & decided together not to tell the truth, then they lied to their leadership right in front of everybody on top of it. That's why they were smitten dead by the Lord, as a testimony & a dandy bad example to all, not only because they withheld, but because they <u>lied</u> on top of it to leadership.

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Grandpa likes third-class pushers, not first-class problems! When you get pushed into a place of leadership it's difficult, but it's good, because you know the Lord will have to help you. Don't be afraid of mistakes.—That's one of the <u>best</u> ways you'll ever learn! Nobody judges you by mistakes.—But there's a difference between a mistake & just being plain lazy & unfaithful!--A blunder of the mind, or a sin of the heart.

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One of the main lessons the Lord is trying to teach you is to receive correction in your <u>heart</u> & not just say, "Yes Ma'am", then begrudge it & hate it in your heart. You need to learn to take suggestions not only from top leaders, but even from those on your own level or under you, & that's the greatest test of submission. It's the Lord speaking through them. Your teachers are not trying to teach you to just obey out of duty, but to be willing & eager & want to obey out of <u>love</u>, & because you <u>believe</u> that we're right.—If you really believe & receive with all your heart, you'll obey!

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The thing that draws people to the Family is our dedication, & that's what we admire in the Folks, & that's what people should admire <u>you</u> for when you leave.—Your dedication & shtick-to-it-iveness. Then it doesn't matter what weaknesses you have, or what you ask for prayer for, as long as you have that real <u>love</u> & dedication to the Lord & His work!

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN INSTRUCTION & CORRECTION!

From David, 10 years old:

An important lesson I learned was if we're not good followers, then we can't be good leaders. Leaders learn how to be leaders by being followers. We're going to get correction all our lives. Why are we getting correction? Well, because we need it! And we shouldn't take it so harshly, like thinking the people don't love us & they just want to make life hard for us.-which isn't true at all, it's far from it. Mostly it's just instruction, but there's a difference between <u>instruction</u> & <u>correction</u>. In instruction they're teaching you something, in correction they're teaching you scmething too, but they're correcting you for the mistake that they already instructed 356

you on. So we shouldn't take instruction like a big punishment & a big huge lesson & then be all in the dumps about it, because we're going to get correction & instruction all our lives & we're wrong to take it so hard & personally. We should keep & hold on to the lesson & not just throw it all to the wind, thinking, "Oh, I can't do anything right." They're trying to teach us something that we need. Prov.15:321

More from David on Receiving Correction!

I need to work on receiving correction & not justifying myself. We should ask ourselves how we could improve on the thing that we're getting corrected on. If I get lots of it that day, well then there comes a time to ask myself what's wrong, what can i improve on? Then if i get to where I can't receive correction, then others don't tell me things & even try to instruct me, because i'm too sensitive. If we get correction for daydreaming & spacing out & then fidgeting at ML time, if that's how the day starts out, in a bad way, then it's not surprising if we continue getting more correction or get a demerit. So we need to start the day off right & hear from the Lord.

"So the hardest one to confess our faults to is ourself! We hate even to admit to ourselves our own mistakes, sins & shortcomings, it is sometimes so discouraging, humbling & humiliating! So we try to excuse ourselves to ourselves, & defend ourselves from ourselves, & exonerate & absolve ourselves from all sin, so that we can stand to face ourselves.

"But this only tends to make matters worse, because when we're not honest with ourselves & we keep on trying to fool ourselves, we try to do the same with God & others, & the result is one awful mess—you make a mess of your own life, hurt all those associated with you, & hurt God most of all, as well as hinder your testimony & ministry to others who need you!

TO SIN IS BAD, TO COVER UP WORSE!

From Nacm1:

It's bad enough that we're doing something wrong, but it's even worse when we try to cover it up. I know that's a problem that I've had. As far back as I can remember, I remember doing things wrong & when somebody asked me about it, just overing it up & lying about it. If I'll be talking with the girls in the bedroom after lights out, for example, & if Auntle Sara or Uncle Mark comes in, we'll stop talking & just pretend like we're little angels lying there peacefully in our beds going to sleep. lust covering up like that is bad enough. We should just be sorry & stop, but not coveror else we won't even learn a lesson from ". That verse was real sobering: "It's

better for a millistone to be hung around your neck & to be cast into the sea than to stumble one of these little ones." The Lord would rather just have us get out of here than to even stumble one little tiny child through our bad sample.



Not Reporting Means Agreeing with the Sini Also another point in that talk was about reporting, that 11 we see somebody doing something wrong & we don't report it, then we're twice as guilty as they are. It says in the Bible, 1f you don't report it, that means you're agreeing with it &

hypocrites make two-fold more a child of the Devil than they were. I know lots of times I have a hard time reporting on people myself & It's probably because as Grandpa says so often, the reason you don't want to report on people is because you don't want people to report on you.

I remember when I was four years old in a Family school, whenever I or anybody would tell on one of the kids, they'd always tease you & be mean to you & say "tattle-tale, tattle-tale". I think that's where I got the impression that it's not good & try to work it out yourself & let things take care of themselves, & that you don't always have to go to the adults & report it. Over the years since then I have been learning of course, but still, when you learn something like that when you're so little, it's kind of hard to change. Like now, we kind of have to go to the opposite extreme & just report every little thing until we get into the habit of it, because failure to report a crime is a crime.

Justifying Is Blaming Others

We also had a few good lessons about justifying & back-talking. We learned justifying is telling others, "You are wrong & I'm right & I'm going to prove it to you." It's blaming others for being wrong when they are trying to help you by correcting you. That was real sobering! You think, or the Enemy tries to tell you, "Poor you! They misunderstood you & they don't understand what you really did & you were really right & they were wrong. You need to explain it to them or you're going to get in big trouble & it's going to be the end of the World & everything." They're right if the Lord shows them something or something rubs our leaders the wrong way. Even though the facts might be a little wrong, still it's the Lord showing them something & still we should listen & obey & just say, "Yes, Ma'am" or "Yes, Sir" without any back-talk.

Also another real good lesson is that you can justify yourself without saving a word. If someone is talking with you & you "Well, OK, we're learning about say, justifying, so I'll keep my mouth shut & I won't say a word, otherwise I'm going to get a demerit." But still in your heart you can be justifying yourself, thinking, "Oh, that's wrong," & still not getting any lessons out of it. If the Lord gives our leaders a little leading that something is wrong, even if at first they might not have all the facts all right, it might just be the tip of the loeberg that they're seeing & there's a big problem underneath. It's the Lord showing them something.

"When you get so proud & so smart that you can't stand somebody making a suggestion or a correction, you're too proud & too smart!" (MDP-Leaders & Shepherds:150)

MORE VICTORY THRU' SEEING MY MISTAKES!

From Leah (Age 13 1/2-14):

PTL! I feel like this has been a real victorious week, not because I've been doing real good or anything, because it's quite the contrary. I haven't really been doing so well & in no way have attained in any of the areas which I talked about in my reaction, but I feel like it's been a real victory because I'm learning so much. I feel that every battle, every trial & all these things I'm going through, brings me another step closer to Him-although it seems hard to take sometimes. It's really a breaking & it doesn't seem at the time to be so victorious at all--to know how much you failed, to know what a mess you are & how much you need to work on, but the Lord is really showing me that through these things I am surely drawing closer to Him & making steps forward through these mistakes & sins.

It's a victory once you see all these things. I know probably even before when I didn't see it & I thought I was real happy & everything was going fine, I still had the same sins & the same problems. But now that I see them, It's more of a victory because at least 1 see them now & I can work on them.

"All He asks is for us to commit ourselves. He'll do everything else for us—give us strength, power, wisdom, life, love. Only God can do this, but we must be willing & yielded to Him, & make the decision to put Him first without reservations!

"Only then can we find the fullness of faith that we seek—In the path of complete obedience, when we really begin to forsake all & follow the Lord! When we're willing to 'take up our cross & deny ourselves' (Luke 9:23) & yield our pride & will & follow Him, all the rest will come, because He'll give us the power as we surrender to Him." (New Life!—New Love!:144,145)

The Serlousness of Our Influence

I'm so thankful for the very stern talk we got from Aunt Sara-a real stern warning to all of us teens here about how we behave with the younger children behind the adults' backs, & with each other, how it will really affect them, good or bad. As they've noticed, the children have been picking up on a few of our bad habits. It really woke me up to see the seriousness especially of my mistakes around them, because even though I might not justify myself around the adults, or be critical & be harsh & snao back a lot around Uncle Mark & Auntie Sara. If I am like that around the other children, it's much much worse because I'm being hypocritical & being deceptive to my elders,

It's like rotting the whole barrel from the inside, from the bottom of the barrel, until finally it gets to the brink & you see all the top apples are rotten from the bottom one. Finally the farmer sees it & it's too late. This is really deceptive because the rotten apples at the bottom of the barrel just eat away behind their backs at all the good ones. It's better that they see my sins & that I'm blatant about them in front of them so they can take out those rotten spots before they rot the whole bunch. I have been like that a lot & I know I really need to work on that, as I must say, I don't have guite as much fear of the Lord around the other children & other teens as I would around an adult, & this is really bad, it's man-pleasing the adults.

Why it's Bad to Cover Up

It really shows how the <u>Lord</u> sees me: He judges me by how I behave around the "least of the children", not when I'm around

358

Auntle Sara or Uncle Mark, but how I behave myself with the children, because later it's going to show up in their behaviour, because of my bad sample behind the elders' backs. It really made me feel real sorry & gave me much more of a conviction to want to change when I saw how my bad little sins were starting to affect some of the Kina's children. It really shock me up to how much I affect others.

realised how it's not the sin of justifying myself, but the even worse sin is that I try to <u>cover it up</u> & do it behind other people's backs & try to get away with it. Actually they would be much happier with me if i just was more blatant about it. instead of rotting the others behind their backs.

So I've made a conscious effort that If i'm having an argument, or even just talking when I'm not supposed to with the others, if an adult comes, then I say to the adult as soon as they come in, "I'm sorry, we were having an argument" & stop It! Also it's a good test for me to see If I'll stop It before an adult comes in, as the Lord is always faithful to give me checks, TTL.



So Good to Be Honest, Confess, & Apologize! Sometimes when there'll be a situation where I have talked back to one of the other kids, just being self-righteous & thinking I'm always right, the Lord will always give me a strong check that that wasn't right & a real conviction to go back & apologise. TTL, sometimes I tend to get discouraged because I see my faults so much more, in every word or slip of the mouth. & begin thinking I'm so bad & I can never be good. But the Lord showed me that that's the best place to bewhere you can really see where you're wrong be able to go & confess.

That's what the Lord is mainly trying to show me--1f 1 do wrong things, to confess them, to be honest about them & not try to cover up & be hypocritical. I find out the more honest I am, the more others are happier with me if I confess to them, Instead of them having to go & tell my sins to me without me confessing first. And even If maybe the other child was a little wrong too, it always helps to apologise. There are

always two sides to a fight & you're never completely right. So it's much better, & it's good for my pride to just go apologise & confess to them first.

Learning to Not Justify Myself

i still am really working on not justifying myself, because I know that that's really a bad problem if it goes on & on. It's not being vielded & the Lord can't use vou. I always ask the Lord to use me, it's my main desire.-For Him to use me in any way He can & to be completely yielded to Him. But those things really take a lot of our cooperation; if there's one little unvielded area then it hinders your usefulness. So that's my one little area that I really have to fight so the Lord can use me, to not justify myself & to ask the Lord to help me each time I even justify myself in my heart. Because even though I don't voice it, it's still just as bad, as it's in my heart. By God's grace & mercy & help. He is going to help me to get the victory over it. Even If He doesn't, I'll just keep working on it because I really don't want that to be a stumbling block in my walk with Him.

BY THE FEAR OF THE LORD MEN DEPART FROM EVIL!

-A Lesson that Changed My Life! From Ruth (Age 12):

Auntie Sara & Uncle Mark talked with me about the very unloving things I did last night.-They said that people who disobey purposely & mischlevously just don't have any fear of the Lord, & if I just keep on & on, when I know better, then I don't have any fear or respect for the Lord & what <u>He</u> thinks of my behaviour. I'm not loving Him enough to want to please & obey <u>Him.</u> If I have that fear of the Lord, I'd be afraid to do anything like that .- Not just afraid because somebody will "get me" for it, but I need to see that the Lord is seeing me & to fear the Lord & not man.

Also it was pointed out that when you do something like that (I was being foolish & rowdy after lights out & teasing Naomi) then you have to make a mental choice in your mind, you have to think, "Am I going to continue doing this or am 1 going to stop?"—Because the Spirit is faithful to continue check us! So I guess I made the wrong choice & I just kept going & I kept hurting her & I kept being foolish & disobedient & teasing & doing all those things that I shouldn't be doing. You have to make a mental choice whether or not you're going to obey the Lord's will, or your own will.

I was very surprised how Naomi took it so well & she didn't get upset like i know i would have if somebody was doing that to me! She took it real well & I really admire her for that. It was a good sample to me, because I was being bad to tease & provoke her & she was being so good & patient & wasn't getting upset at me.

Auntie Sara said at pow-wow that it's not really all of our big boo-boos that they lock at, but it's our <u>receptivity</u> & how we receive things & how we repent & take our lessons & how we learn from them.

This lesson & reproof is probably going to be an unforgettable experience in my life & I'll probably never forget this & it will make a very outstanding change in my whole life. The Lord is helping me to change & I believe these punishments are good for me & I'm really thankful for my overseers pointing these things out to me. (Sara: She was separated from the others for sleep times for having disturbed the others' quiet time, plus put on dinner dishes for one week.)

When I was talked to about two months ago, I didn't know I was so far off the Jesus help me for my stubbornness & track. shortsightedness. I didn't guite know, I thought it was just a talk about how I'd better watch my step. But now that they have some evidence & proof to use on me, an example, I think it really got through to me & I really was able to get more out of this talk than the last talk. The last talk I was given 1 wasn't really submitted to everything they were saying. I just sort of said, "Yes, yes, right, right, amen, amen" & I didn't really respond much & I didn't really get desperate with the Lord about it, so therefore I didn't change! Then two months later, here I go again!

But this time, I really cried out to. the Lord & prayed desperately that He'd help me. So now with this second talk, I believe this is going to be the last one that I'm going to have to have like that, & the Lord is going to help me change. It's going to have to be Him! I'll have to give my cooperation, but it's going to have to be Him.

I have a little commitment that I wrote down in my diary that I'd like to share with you: "From this day forward, everything is made new & is changed. The old is passed away & all things are made new. This shall never happen again. I've completely repented & now with the Lord's help I shall come forth as gold, even much finer gold. The bird whose pinion was once broken shall by the grace of God fly much higher than before. With the Lord's help, I shall endure hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. It is not me but Christ in me. This is my commitment to the Lord & I will never depart from this. He is my Lover, King & Saviour & I will serve Him all the days of my life & behold the beauty of the Lord & enquire in His temple. I will be a dependable person & trustable person that is completely dedicated to the Lord & His service. This is my dedication & by His grace I will be all this." Love, Ruth



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Verses On Correction

Hy son, despise not the chastening of the Lord; neither be weary of correction. For whom the Lord loveth He correcteth. (Pro.3: 11,12)

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All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, & is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness. (2Ti.3:16)

She obeyed not the voice; she received not correction; she trusted not in the Lord; she drew not near to her God. (Zeph.3:2)

Correct thy son, & he shall give thee rest; yea, he shall give delight unto thy soul. (Pro.29:17)

(See also: Jer.5:3b; Pro.22:15; 16:10)

Verses on Instruction

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom & instruction. (Pro.1:7)

Take fast hold of instruction: let her not go: keep her, for she is thy life! (Pro. 4:13)

For the commandment is a lamp; & the law is light; & reproofs of instruction are the way of life. (Pro.6:23)

He that refuseth instruction dispiseth his own soul, but he that heareth reproof getteth understanding. The fear of the Lord is the instruction of wisdom; & before honour is humility, (Pro.15:32,33)

But they obeyed not, neither inclined their ear, but made their neck stiff, that they might not hear, nor receive instruction. (Jer.17: 23)

(See also Pro.5:12,23; 8:9; 10:17; 13:1,18; 15:5; 19:20)

Verses on Fear of the Lord

Be not wise in thine own eyes; fear the Lord & depart from evil! (Pro.3:7)

The fear of the Lord is to hate evil: Pride, arrogancy & the evil way, & the froward mouth_ do I hate. (Pro.8:13)

The fear of the Lord tendeth to life, & he that hath it shall abide satisfied; he shall not be visited with evil. (Pro. 19:23)

By humility & the fear of the Lord are riches & honour & life. (Pro.22:4)

I am a companion of all them that fear Thee, & of them that keep Thy precepts. (Ps.119:63)

Let not thine heart envy sinners: but be thou in the fear of the Lord all the day long, (Pro. 23:17)

(See also Ps.119:38,39, 120; Heb.10:30,31; Ps.111:10; Jer.23:24; Pro.15: 3; Ps.14:2; Isa.33:6)

<u>The Lord is always</u> watching you!