

THE FOUNDATION FOR LIFE

DISCIPLINE

For Everyday Living



The Most Comprehensive Book On Discipline Ever Written



ADOLFO S. INDUCTIVO

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Every human activity requires discipline. Without discipline, any human activity is bound to fail eventually.



Proverbs 4:13

“Hold firm to DISCIPLINE; never let her go. Guard her well for she is your salvation.”

COMMENTARIES

“Discipline For Everyday Living” is one of the most comprehensive books I have ever read treating the subject of discipline from a personal and organizational point of view from as many angles as possible. It is clear direct, practical, and covers almost all details with regard to the subject. I would recommend it as a handbook for training courses for leaders where discipline is such an essential component.”

BRO. ANDREW GONZALES, FSC, Ph.D.

*Presidential Adviser for Academics and Research, DLSU System
Former Secretary, Department of Education Culture and Sports (DECS)*

“Skeptics say that the proliferation of “how to” books is not the answer to teaching values and improving behavior. That may not be so. Adolfo Inductivo’s book in itself is an exercise in discipline. His lifelong devotion to research on the subject of discipline and leadership is commendable. This may not be a panacea for what is believed to be a Filipino malaise, however, efforts to organize our thoughts on the matter as the author had done, is a positive step towards national discipline. In that context the book responds to a felt need.

ORLANDO S. MERCADO, Ph.D.

Former Senator and Secretary of National Defense

“A notch higher than most leadership books, it emphasizes the concept of exemplary leadership with its pioneering approach in instilling organizational discipline. This book is also an indispensable guide for leaders in all levels, as it offers its readers, practical yet highly effective management advices. If your vision is for a highly-disciplined and successful organization, then this book must be in your required-reading list!”

LT. GEN. EDILBERTO P. ADAN
*The Deputy Chief of Staff, AFP
Former Superintendent, PMA*



COMMENTARIES

“There have been many books on leadership and discipline but none of them parallels “Discipline For Everyday Living.” This book has become the ultimate in developing discipline. Having read the book myself, I highly recommend it to leaders and followers alike.”

PROF. ELVIRA P. LIM
Chair, Department of English,
College of Arts and Science, UE



“The book has touched me in many ways, in fact many articles, quotations and verses came like “straight punches.” The lessons strengthened my faith to overcome the “battles” of my life. I feel blessed for having one!

FLORITA U. ANTONIO, MNSA, Ph.D.
Director, Curriculum and Standards
Development Service
Philippine Public Safety College (PPSC)

“The book provides a significant source of viewing discipline from various points of view...the person, the organization, and the groups where the individual may find himself or herself in. Very significant is the inclusion of spirituality and God’s ways, the inspiration and guidance on the topic. The “B-E-S-T” ways are most helpful. This book covers a wide gamut of approaches in understanding discipline and would be very useful to whoever may want to know more about the matter. My congratulations go to the author of this book!”

DR. LILIA ARBUES-TORRES
Former Director, U.P. Office of Counseling and Guidance,
Professorial Lecturer, U.P.
Graduate School of Education

“The book shows Wisdom of God for the change in the paradigm of every leader to make his organization a better place for personal growth, discipline, and achievement. Praise God for the inspiration and guidance He bestowed on the author of one of the most valuable books ever written for humanity.

DR. ROSALIE VILLEGUZ-CASTRO, MPSA, D.C.Ed
Supervising Education Program Specialist
National Police College

COMMENTARIES

*“Having read dozens of book and attended countless training programs on the subject of Human Performance, during my 30-year career in the United States, I find the new book “**Discipline For Everyday Living**” ties all things together in a simple, elegant, and useful matter. Had this book been available 40 years ago, I would not have made the mistakes I’ve made learning human nature. I’ll be saving the cost of this book daily throughout the rest of my life through the efficiency it has provided me in understanding human behavior and discipline. All English reading individuals throughout the world will gain from it.”*

BARRYLE ROY DOOLITTLE

*Senior Human Performance Technology Specialist
Barya Lang Web Page Design, Philippines*

“The book is one of a kind. A must have for those who dream of making the world a better place to live in.”

FR. PAUL RENATO RUDILLAS, SVD
*Rector, San Antonio De Padua Parish
Aguinaldo, Ifugao*



“The book truly represents the whole gamut of ideas that makes an individual and organization develops discipline, which we all need at this crucial period of our mundane existence. I recommend this reading material for our security practitioners nationwide.”

ATTY. RAMON D. BERGADO

*President, Philippine Association of Detective
& Protective Agency Operators (PADPAO), Inc.*

“This book is so timely and relevant in this age of activism and radicalism. So many young people are conscious of their rights but not so much about their social, official, and personal responsibilities. This book will be very useful in educational institutions; to be used as textbook or reference book in Social Studies and Philosophy subjects in high school and in college.”

REV. CONRADO A. SAN PEDRO, SR.

*Professor of Theology
Reform Presbyterian Seminary*

“The book presents a very useful and valuable perspective that is highly responsive in these times of intense competition and uncertainties. A must-read book for all managers!”

FRANCISCO LONTOC, Ph.D.

Professor, MBA Graduate School

DEDICATION



*For those aspiring for
Peace, Security & Safety,
Health & Wellness,
Productivity & Excellence
and LEADERSHIP.
May the Spirit of this book
empowers you.*



PREFACE

I consider this book as one of the most precious books of our times. Why? If we analyze the cause of many failures of men individually and collectively as a people, organization and nation, we can see that it all boils down to a simple problem of *discipline*.

As the future population of the world increases, it is expected that *discipline* problems in all areas of human concerns to also increase. Indeed, the need for this book on *discipline* is paramount. Unfortunately, rarely can you find any authoritative book on *discipline* as comprehensive as this in the market today. Explaining the nitty gritty and details of *discipline*.

It took me decades actually to write this very sensitive subject of discipline. Even if you browse in the internet, you can hardly find these details of *discipline* being tackled such as its parameters, kinds, types, elements, classifications, etc. In fact, these details of *discipline* are very essential in fully understanding *discipline*. A product of my own personal experiences, observations, investigations and eventual conceptualizations of *discipline*.

I assure you: there is no better way you can understand *discipline* comprehensively unless you read this book. You can consider this book a novel piece of work whose Wisdom God I believe has put into my consciousness for a purpose.

My four years of military training and *discipline* as a Cadet at the Philippine Military Academy (PMA) contributed a lot in my initial visualization of these details of *discipline* critical to understanding the very physical nature of the subject.

Being a Pastor as well and a preacher of the Words of Jesus Christ for more than 10 years, I discovered that there is a higher spiritual meaning and purpose of *discipline*. *Discipline* is not just limited to mere physical *discipline* being practiced by man but extends even beyond the very spiritual nature and *discipline* of God.



PREFACE

The book, therefore, is a combination of both the physical and spiritual *discipline* of man and of God. Beautifully crafted to become an ultimate authoritative book on *discipline*. Envisioned for our physical and spiritual salvation here on earth and to eternity. Indeed, the true essence and Spirit of *discipline* are now being revealed through this book.

It is not that easy to discover these details of *discipline* now being discussed in this book. All are original discoveries of the author. Deep meditation, imagination, discernment plus prayer I believe provided me the vision to discover these details of *discipline* and validate them with the Scriptures.

Every time I sleep at night, I have to bring beside me a ballpen and a piece of paper to write on whatever ideas that crop up in my mind during the night before inputting them to the computer the next morning. For more than ten years, this was my daily routine habit in finally developing the ideas of *discipline* now written in this book. God, has a hand I believe in ultimately coming out with this book on *discipline*. Proverbs 1:23 of NIV says: ***“If you turn to my discipline, then I would pour out my spirit upon you and teach you my words.”***

This book was written under Philippine setting though the principles and details of *discipline* being presented here are very much applicable in whatever nationality you are in. Being once a soldier in the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), I came to realize that weapon alone is not the only gauge of success in the battlefield. It is the quality of the soldier behind this weapon that matters – his state of training and *discipline*. All of us are equally faced daily with different enemies in this life’s battlefield both physical and spiritual. Poverty, diseases, traffic, criminalities, peace & order problems, nature’s wrath, etc., are some of its manifestations. Like soldiers, we need *discipline* to overcome and survive these battles. The book has been titled **“Discipline For Everyday Living”** (DFEL). This is to remind us always to observe *discipline* in our everyday life in order to survive our daily battles and become successful in life.



PREFACE

I was an avid reader of various Leadership books during my junior years in the military service. Despite the proliferation of these books in many bookstores here in Metro Manila, I noticed still the failure of many heads of offices and agencies in their Leadership of the organizations. I came to a realization that this apparent failure in Leadership is a result mainly of the failure in the *discipline* of people and organization.

Our training in PMA as they say is Leadership but as I experienced it, it is not. It's character development in the values of Courage, Integrity, and Loyalty. We were *disciplined* primarily to ultimately embrace these values to form part of the cadet's character. In short, *discipline* is the very essence of training in military organizations such as PMA. Why? Without *discipline*, it is impossible for values to be internalized to form part of one's character - an essential ingredient of Leadership in the military service. All these observations gave me the idea and the answer as to why many Leaders of organizations failed in their Leadership. *Discipline* is lacking in the Leader as well as in the follower. This led me to write a book on *discipline* instead of Leadership.

Today, many organizations both public and private are suffering from various Leadership problems. A serious "Leadership Crisis" is in the offing all because of failures in *discipline*. The Leader fails to *discipline* properly and correctly his people and followers for which he is lacking and ignorant about also. Indeed, the knowledge of *discipline* as discussed in this book is the very key to successful Leadership of organizations.

After all these investigations, I have finally concluded that the worst problem of *discipline* is not just the lack of it but simply the ignorance of it. Many are just ignorant of this subject of *discipline*. The main reason why this book was written. Through this book, the readers will now be able to fully understand the very nature, form, substance and details of *discipline* which can be their ultimate reference and guide for the eventual observance and implementation of it.



PREFACE

After reading the book, you will be able to see the entire picture and state of *discipline* in your organization. You will be better able to analyze yourself, your people, your organization and the Will of God. You will be able to *discipline* your organization with *less pain, less resistance, less chaos, conflict* and similar problems. Your *discipline* will be more loved than hated. You will become conscious of *discipline* in your organization; since in order to be conscious, you need to know and understand *discipline* first including its dynamics and details.

Peace and productivity in your organization are expected to improve. You will be more confident and precise in dealing with whatever *disciplinary problem* you will encounter in the future. You will appreciate *discipline* both in form and in substance since many practice and implement *discipline* in various styles and standards without regard to form and substance. You will be able to envision the *discipline* in your organization. Eventually, you will learn your real purpose in *life* through *discipline* and eventual *discipleship* for Christ. With this book, you can now develop a "Culture of *Discipline*" in your organization including your country. You can empower yourself and your people. You can now facilitate the attainment of *discipline* and effective leadership among your people and organization. Ultimately you can experience a deeper sense of purpose and fulfillment in life.

*Life without discipline
is life without a purpose*

Thus, I would like to encourage everyone to secure a copy of this book not only for themselves but even for their friends and loved ones. Remember: never can we succeed in whatever endeavor we are in without *discipline*. And never can we have *discipline* without first fully understanding it. God willing, this book will lead you to success in its true Spirit. Jeremiah 29:11 "*For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future"* (NIV). As a final word, I would like to emphasize that the *discipline* principles I am discussing here are not mine but from the very principles of God's *discipline* revealed to me through the Scriptures. All of us have lapses of *discipline* within us. The book will serve as a guide and a mentor to remind us always of our *discipline*. To God be the Glory!



ACKNOWLEDGMENT

My deepest gratitude to all those who passed through my life whether in a *disciplined* or *undisciplined* way – all have contributed to the *substance* of this book.

I am very grateful to the **Philippine Military Academy** (PMA) for shaping my initial training on *physical discipline* during my Cadet days at the Academy. Without which I would have not gained the foundational ideas of writing this book on *discipline*.

I praise God for the Spiritual gift He bestowed me to further discern the *spiritual discipline* I needed most to write this book.

To all the Filipinos and my countrymen who were my very source of inspiration and motivation in coming out with this book. May we attain a National **“Culture of Discipline”** in the Philippines through this book. My best wishes!

To God be the Glory!



INTRODUCTION

One major concern of people and nations worldwide is the unabated increase in its population. In the Philippines alone, the present population of 110 million people (as of 2021) is expected to double to 220 million by 2050. Along with this increase in population is of course the consequential doubling of people's behavioral and *discipline* problems. Poverty, diseases, criminalities, accidents, peace & order problems and similar *disciplinary* cases in the Philippines are expected to rise by 2050. Mainly because of people's deteriorating behaviors and *discipline*. This if we do nothing. 2 Timothy 3:1-5 *"But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days. People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good, treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God-- having a form of godliness but denying its power....."* (NIV). It is of paramount importance for Leaders of nations today to start initiating appropriate *disciplinary* measures among all their institutions such as in the family, education, politics, religion, business and other related organizations and institutions both government and private to preempt this glooming scenario. A **"Culture of Discipline"** needs to be established in these institutions.

*The call of our times is discipline,
not just leadership. For how can you lead
when your people are undisciplined.
If you know how to discipline,
you will know how to lead.*



INTRODUCTION

Actually, the people's lack of *discipline* can be attributed mainly to their not being able to understand fully well the very essence, meaning and spirit of *discipline*. Many are not really that aware, conscious and knowledgeable of *discipline* specifically on its details. *Discipline* is generally made relative and abstract as far as its definition, concept and implementation. There are no specific scientific parameters for *discipline* where we could easily measure, monitor and evaluate ultimately. There is no clear-cut definition and standard of *discipline* to this moment. *Discipline* in its present form is not fully clear to everyone. Many talk and advocate *discipline* without having a thorough knowledge and understanding of it. We do not know what *discipline* really is and how to properly and correctly implement it. *Discipline* remains an abstract thing to many. Mostly opinionated. Described and perceived by many as a mere concept, rules, regulations and or procedures that must be blindly followed and obeyed.

The worst problem of discipline is not just the lack of it but simply the ignorance of it.

As a consequence, we tend to be less and less sensitive of *discipline*. Thus, we could hardly sustain *discipline* much less observe it. We do not have any standard and authoritative doctrine and textbook on *discipline* that can competently and authoritatively explain *discipline* in its totality both physical and spiritual ready to be read, learned, studied and observed by the people similar to a textbook on Mathematics and Physics where one can find a standard base of analysis, computations and application that is universally accepted.

Today, many are criticizing people's *discipline*. The question is, do we really know what *discipline* means? *Discipline* has long been one of the most misunderstood topics. Seldom do we delve into it. We all have varied interpretations and definitions of *discipline* which to me already indicate the most serious problem of *discipline* which is the ignorance of it.



INTRODUCTION

We don't have any standard scientific framework or doctrines of *discipline* where we can possibly base our *disciplinary* actions. Worse, many of the things we seem to know and practice about *discipline* are oftentimes wrong. This actually is the start of all kinds of *disciplinary* problems happening around us. This situation only presupposes the development of a sound and an authoritative reference book on *discipline* which can be the basis and guide for all *discipline* principles, doctrines and implementation whether personal or organizational *discipline*.

Through this book, we can now provide the reader a very comprehensive view and knowledge of *discipline*. All your doubts and queries regarding this subject are fully answered and explained already in this book. Ultimately, the reader will obtain a good grasp and understanding of what *discipline* is all about both physical and spiritual. He will be able to identify the specifics and details of *discipline* needed to better monitor, measure and evaluate the *discipline* of people and organizations.

The reader will now be able to define and explain *discipline* more clearly and comprehensively. The reader will now have a very authoritative source of knowledge and Wisdom of *discipline* since the book is founded on the higher Wisdom of God's *discipline* as revealed in the Scripture. He will be more confident in his *discipline* knowing it is anchored on a sound foundation. The reader will now be able to implement *discipline* with ease, simplicity and accuracy that is proper and correct.

Specifically, the book will delve into the four (4) parameters of *discipline*. The presence and absence of any of these parameters will determine whether a person or organization has *discipline* or not. It will also tackle the three (3) kinds of *discipline* that a person must observe for him to succeed in life. There are four (4) types of *discipline* which you can observe from people. It is important for one to analyze first the type of *discipline* your subject possesses before imposing your *discipline*. *Discipline* can also be classified into a **dis"CI"pline** with big "C" and a **dis"SI"pline** with a big "S." Their differences you will know from this book.



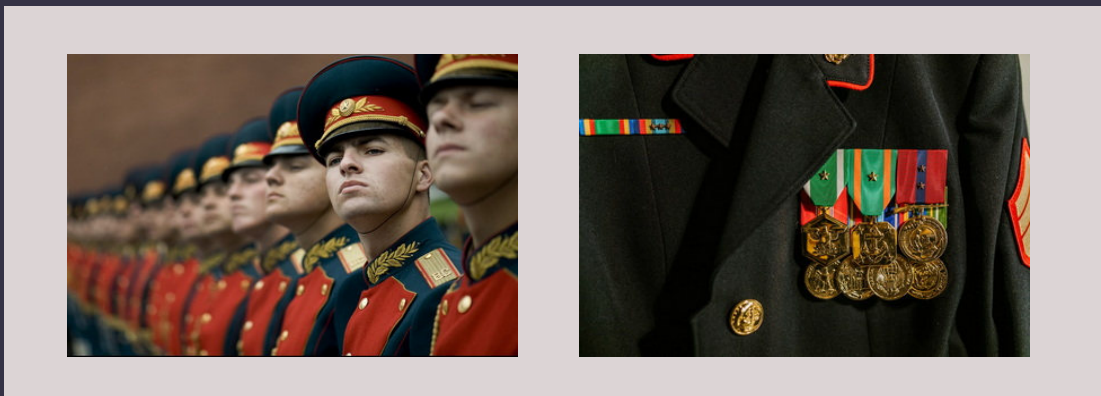
INTRODUCTION

For your *discipline* to be considered correct, there are three (3) elements of *discipline* you must consider. These elements are fully explained in this book also. However, it is not enough that your *discipline* is correct. It must be proper as well. In implementing your *discipline*, it must be correct and proper. The proper way to *discipline* is by employing the **B.E.S.T. discipline principles**. It involves the **Behavioral, Environmental, System and Technological** approaches of implementing proper and correct *discipline*. Developed and progressive nations have employed successfully these **B.E.S.T. discipline principles**. This you can learn from this book.

Trust me. With this book, you will surely succeed in life because your goals ultimately will be attained. You will be more confident and better prepared for any eventualities in your life. You will attain inner peace within you. Love will grow more intensely in you because to have *discipline* is to have love in yourself, in your neighbor and in God.

True leadership is not just motivating and inspiring people. It is actually developing people through discipline. Motivating and inspiring people can be manipulative and temporary. But developing people is permanent.

The *discipline* I experienced in PMA and in the AFP plus the *discipline* I gained from the Scriptures being a Pastor, contributed immensely in coming out with this valuable millennial book. These beautiful discoveries on the true essence and Spirit of *discipline* both physical and spiritual have now been written among the pages of this book. These I would like to share with everyone. Hoping that through this book people will no longer be a victim of the wrong *discipline* as caused by the people's ignorance of *discipline*.



INTRODUCTION

Actually, it is not that the Japanese, the South Koreans and the Singaporeans are more *discipline* than us. It is just that they know how to *discipline* – more than many of us. Their successes were not just attributed to the *Leadership* of their *leaders*, but mainly to the *discipline* of their *leaders* as well as their *followers*. They know how to *discipline* their people *properly* and *correctly* and make *discipline* as their *culture*. A typical example is when an airplane in Japan crashes, the airline head immediately tenders his resignation to accept the responsibility. This honorable act of their *leaders* is part and parcel of knowing how to *discipline*.

In today's chaotic world, you can hardly lead – if you cannot enforce discipline properly and correctly.

If there is any best medicine that I can confidently prescribe to ease all kinds of human problems in these troubled times, I believe it is *discipline*, *discipline* and more of *discipline*. We cannot totally eliminate *disciplinary problems* in our midst, but we can surely reduce it – if we know what *discipline* means and the proper and correct ways of implementing it.

My advice: don't ever dare talk of *discipline* if you have not read this book. I urge you to secure one copy for *yourself*, for your *family members* and even for your *friends* and loved ones. The holistic knowledge and information you can gain from reading this book are highly important in this time and in the years to come. They are applicable to anybody (young or old) regardless of race, color or nationalities. Remember: the worst problem of *discipline* is not just the lack of it but simply the ignorance of it. I hope in the future boldly you can share this knowledge of *discipline* for a better world and Philippines.

My second book entitled: “**The B.E.S.T. Ways to Discipline**” is a sequel of the book ***Discipline For Everyday Living***. In this book you will be equipped with more than **200** ways on how to *discipline* your people and organization - *properly* and *correctly*.

These ways are categorized into **Behavioral** (83 ways), **Environmental** (30 ways), **System** (62 ways) and **Technological** (29 ways).

INTRODUCTION

These **B.E.S.T.** ways will provide you an idea and a guide on how you can successfully implement *discipline* in your organization in accordance to your situation and condition. I advice you to secure one copy of this book also since it will complement your previous knowledge of *discipline* gained from **Discipline For Everyday Living** book.

Once you have these two books with you, you can easily become an expert of *discipline* within 5 years of practicing it. You will graduate to become an effective Leader of your organization. And the rest is history. **My advanced Congratulations!**

*Your discipline influences others through a “Ripple Effect.”
Because everyone influences everyone else. Disciplined people
are powerful influences. If you are disciplined, you influence
the discipline of your family. If your family is disciplined, you
influence the discipline of your community. If your community is
disciplined, you influence the nation’s discipline as well.
The effect ripples throughout the universe.
Heider (1985)*



DISCIPLINE



Unless a man finally realizes that it is the ultimate intention and plan of God for him to be disciplined in life, he will never attain real peace, joy, happiness and prosperity - more so the purpose of God.

CHAPTER 1

Knowing Man

Man in General

If you do not know man, how can you know yourself? How can you know God who is your Creator? What then is the purpose and essence of your *discipline* to man? The start of any successful *discipline* begins with knowing man *physically* and *spiritually*. Before you impose *discipline* to man, you must first endeavor to know man your *subject*. You must know his general and particular characteristics, his *behaviors*, his human *nature*, including his *spiritual* being. Only in knowing these can you better analyze him and his future actions including his eventual *discipline*.



Systems will change, environment will change, technology will change – things will change: but the very essence, *nature* and purpose of man whatever his race, color, creed or nationalities will never change. They are permanent and forever as his Creator originally designed them to be. Jeremiah 29:11: “*For I know what my plans for you are, plans to save you and not to harm you, plans to give you a future and to give you hope.*”



There is no way you can best discipline man unless you first know man and the purpose of his Creator

Thus, to successfully *discipline* man, you must first know man and the purpose of his Creator to him. It is in fully knowing man that we can only claim to have found the truth that will set us all free because we will then know our Creator and His ultimate purpose for us. ***Ecclesiastes 11:5: "Just as you do not know how the spirit pervades the members in the mother's womb, neither will you understand the work of God, creator of all things."*** For how can we know God whom we do not see, if we do not know man whom we see? It is impossible for us to really know God when we don't even know man – to love God when we don't even *love* man. Many do not know and *love* man. And many don't really know and *love* God. ***Hosea 6:6: "I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice, the knowledge of God rather than the burnt of offerings."***

Many *disciplinary* problems are a result only of people's lack of knowledge of man – *physically* and *spiritually*. We have a low and shabby outlook of man not knowing he (whatever status in life) was created in the image and likeness of God – the temple of the Holy Spirit of God. ***1 Corinthians 6:19 "Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; (NIV).***

We look at man as a mere object and a commodity with no Spirit of God. We tend to value man less and treat him with less respect. We limit and fail to develop his potentials and creativity to contribute his God-given gifts and talents to mankind and glorify God the Creator. Unless we fully know man *physically* and *spiritually*, we can never successfully *discipline* man. As Socrates once said, ***"Knowing thyself is the highest form of knowledge."***

The first knowledge every school must impart to its students must be the eventual knowledge and understanding of man both *physically* and *spiritually*. All its teachings must lead to these.

*KNOWING MAN = KNOWING YOURSELF =
KNOWING GOD = KNOWING YOUR DISCIPLINE.*

There are two theories where we can base our knowledge of man. First is science as espoused by many social and behavioral scientists in the persons of Abraham Maslow, Frederick Herzberg, McGregor and a lot more. Science considers man merely an animal having no *Spirit* of God. Second, are the teachings of the Holy Bible which tell the creation and purpose of man. In creating man, God never considers man an animal but a "human being" having a physical body (humus) and being (the Spirit of God). Man was created higher than animals to rule over them (Genesis 1:22).

We all have common *physical* characteristics as "human beings" whatever our nationalities. We vary only in culture, beliefs, status in life, etc. In His *Spirit* we are one and the same. *Galatians 3:26-29: "Now, in Christ Jesus, all of you are sons and daughters of God through faith. All of you were given to Christ through baptism, have put on Christ. Here there is no longer Greek, or between slave and freedman, or between man and woman: but all of you are one in Christ..."*

The foregoing general knowledge and information about man can help provide a good picture of man both *physical* and *spiritual* to guide us in the various ways of *disciplining* him.

**"THE PURPOSE OF GOD'S DISCIPLINE IS
NOT TO PUNISH US, BUT TO TRANSFORM US."**



Man is in the Image & Likeness of God

Genesis 1:26: God said, "Let us make man in our image, to our likeness." With this, God has endowed man with His breath of life creating man's body to be the temple of His Holy Spirit. In His likeness, God's *Spirit* resides in man. *1st Corinthians 6:19: "Do you know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, given by God?"*

Man having the Spirit of God was primarily designed to be good and predisposed to do good for himself and his fellowmen. Man by his *spiritual* nature is good. *1st Timothy 4:4 "Everything created by God is good,..."* Man is not supposed to become a problem of *discipline*. Even a hard-core criminal has a soft spot in his heart. This we can observe. But inhuman treatment and other *negative* influences in his environment bring out the animal and evil in man instead – causing breakdowns in his *discipline*.

With evil spirits surrounding man, he can be tempted. Man's general goodness is once again put to the test resembling the past sins of Adam and Eve. His *freewill* to do well always is there if not for the negative influences and temptations surrounding him. *Ecclesiastes 7:29: "This only have I found; God made mankind upright, but men have gone in search of many schemes."*

This is the wisdom behind the saying, "*Punish the sin, and not the sinner.*" Since man is the creation of God who is good, *sin* is the creation of the devil which is evil. Our enemies are the evil influences in man.

Thus, whenever you shall *discipline* your members, be able to distinguish the sin from the sinner. These are two different things.

As they say: to err is human, to forgive is divine. Eventually, you must learn to forgive as you *discipline* man.

As Spiritual beings, all our actions must be in total conformity with how our Creator designed us to be – including our ways of disciplining.

Man is Created to Love and to Serve

I wonder what the purpose of man's heart. I suppose it was not meant to be a mere reservoir of hatred, vengeance and envy, but was made purposely for the *love* of God and our fellowmen. Imagine man having no sense of love in his heart. Imagine the world you live in full of hatreds instead of *love*. *Colossians 2:2* "...**May you be established in love, ...**" Even Eve was taken from the ribs of Adam near his heart to be loved. Love is the very essence of man's life. We feel good the moment we do good and give unselfish *love* to others because that is how we were created by God. We were spiritually designed to *love* due to His breath of life and the Spirit He endowed us. *1st Thessalonians 2:4...* "**God who sees the heart, rather than men.**"

When Mr. Eugenio Lopez, one of the richest businessmen in the Philippines died, he left this statement: "**The essence of life is service.**" I thought he would say, "*The essence of life is money, money and more money*" which after all he may not bring with him in his death. Obviously his words were loaded with wisdom for many of us to ponder on.

It is not from the Wisdom of God to endow man with his hands, feet, brains and other faculties just to serve him alone – ignoring God's purpose on him. I cannot imagine God creating all these faculties in perfect *form* for no purpose at all other than mere self-preservation.

Ultimately, God wants them to be used to glorify Him. HE wants us to use these faculties as instruments to fulfill His will for mankind particularly by *disciplining* and *discipling* people. *Romans 6:13*: "**Do not offer the parts of your body to sin as instruments of wickedness,.... and offer the parts of your body to him as instruments of righteousness.** We were created for the purpose of *disciplining* each other both *physically* and *spiritually* ultimately making *disciples* of Jesus Christ. *Matthew 28:19-20*: "**Therefore go and make disciples... and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.**"

