



Adventures with God



We all want Comfort

- Genesis 3:19 “By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food”. Everything was provided for Adam and Eve until they were kicked out of the Garden.
- More and more, all of our basic needs are met and are **unearned** until later in adulthood: Your food, shelter, safety, stability, technology, etc.
- When you grow up without scarcity, it produces codependency. [college study about students’ anger coming from their demands to be protected by the school officials]
- Instead of utopia, you get dysfunction. Have you heard of the “Mouse Utopia” experiments in the 60’s?

Consequences of Abundance

- ▶ 1 Kings 12:13-14 ¹³The king answered the people harshly. Rejecting the advice given him by the elders, ¹⁴he followed the advice of the young men and said, “My father made your yoke heavy; I will make it even heavier. My father scourged you with whips; I will scourge you with scorpions.”
- ▶ Why did Rehoboam follow the advice of his peers?
- ▶ Did his upbringing have anything to do with it?

Side Effects of Training

- Heb 12:7-8 ⁷Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as his children. For what children are not disciplined by their father? ⁸ If you are not disciplined—and everyone undergoes discipline—then you are not legitimate, not true sons and daughters at all.
- Παιδεία (pie-day-ah) Training or discipline
- We know we learn from experience, but what about the negative side effects?



Go on Adventures

- ▶ 1 Tim 4:8 For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come.
- ▶ Adventures as “Artificial” hardships
- ▶ But God is the best provider adventures!
- ▶ Gen 22 Abraham and Isaac. God knows our limits—and they’re way beyond what we think they are!