

HEBREWS

JESUS IS BETTER

Don't settle for less

WEEK 24



READ

- Read Hebrews 12 through a few times this week.
- Write here what you think is the main idea the author wishes to communicate in 12:1-2:

EXAMINE

- “Therefore” (12:1) connects those in the Hall of Faith (Hebrews 11) to all followers of Jesus who walk with Him by faith now. How are the faithful in Hebrews 11 described in this verse? How do those believers with Christ relate to believers now on earth?
- Write here the two commands beginning with “let us”:
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- What type of race is living by faith compared to in verse 1? How is that an appropriate description of a life lived by faith?
- How is sin described in verse 1? What does that communicate about challenges believers face in living by faith?
- Believers are commanded to run the race by “looking to Jesus” (12:2). Record here all you learn about Jesus and what believers are supposed to see by looking to Him.

APPLY

- This rich and precious passage relates to every believer but becomes more precious in the experience of one who is suffering for Christ. How is this passage designed to comfort those greatly afflicted for their belief in Christ around the world? What do you know of those suffering for Christ around the world (see Hebrews 13:3)?
- How would you describe the Christian life to someone based on what you read in Hebrews 12? Does this description of the Christian life surprise you?
- What steps can you take to encourage others to fight against sin and to endure hardships in following Christ?

PRAY

- Thank God for the many witnesses He has provided to His power at work in people’s lives. Thank God supremely for Jesus, our suffering now triumphant Lord.
- Confess to God all known sins, considering them rightly as weights, hindrances in our race to know Christ. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you “lay aside” those sins.
- Ask God to minister to those suffering under persecution for Christ, here in the United States and abroad in the world. Seek ways to know what is happening to others so you may pray and act where possible to help them in their suffering.