



Run the Race — Looking To Jesus

Senior Pastor, Kevin Hurt

Hebrews 12:1-2

October 22, 2017

What we have learned so far in our study ...

- The Theme of the Book - Jesus is "Better" ...
- The Outline of the Book of Hebrews ...

A Better Person: Jesus (1-6)

A Better Priest: Jesus (7-10)

A Better Principle: Faith (11-13)

The People of Faith (11)

The Perseverance of Faith (12)

The Practices of Faith (13)

The Warnings

1. **Drifting** from the Word (2:1-4)
2. **Doubting** the Word (3:7-4:13)
3. **Dull** toward the Word (5:11-6:20)
4. **Despising** the Word (10:26-39)
5. **Disobeying** the Word (12:14-19)

What we are going to learn today in our study ...

Hebrews 12:1-2

The Pictures (metaphors) — How does the Bible describe the Christian Life? (2 Timothy 2)

- A **SOLDIER** v.3 (cf. Ephesians 6 "Put on the armor of God")
- An **ATHLETE** v. 5
- A **FARMER** v. 6

Note - There are 2 kinds of athletes:

- 1) A **BOXER** in a ring
- 2) A **RUNNER** in a race

1 Corinthians 9:24-27
1 Timothy 6:11-12
2 Timothy 2:5, 4:7

The Plea — What is the main focus of Hebrews 12:1-2?

"Let us run ..."

LESSON - Run the Race Looking Unto Jesus 12:1-2

I. THE EVENT (An Analogy) v. 1

The Crowd — *"Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of **witnesses** surround us, ..."*

"witnesses" is used in 2 ways

- 1) As an **OBSERVER**.
- 2) As a **TESTIMONY**.

The Challenges — *"Let us ..."*

*"Also lay aside every **encumbrance**/every **weight**"* — Things that may not be sinful, but **DULL** your spiritual senses or **DECREASE** your ability to run after holiness.

At this point you ask: Will this **HELP** me run the race?

*"... and the **sin** which so easily **entangles** us/clings so closely ..."* — Things that are sinful and require **DISOBEDIENCE** to God's clear Word.

At this point you ask: Will this **HOLD** me down in the race?

The Command

*"... and let us run with **endurance** the race that is set before us."*

II. THE EXAMPLE (Jesus) v. 2

We are told to **LOOK** to Jesus who is *"the **author/founder** and **perfector** of faith,..."*

We are told to **LEARN** to understand and endure suffering as God's loving discipline *"who for the joy set before Him **endured** the cross, **despising** the shame, and has **sat down** at the right hand of the throne of God."*

How Do We Fix Our Eyes on Jesus?

1. By **READ** the Word (Psalm 119)
2. By **PRAY** the Word (John 15:1-7)
3. By **SING** the Word (150 Psalms, Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16)

Today's Growth Point — How does this passage apply to you and your GCG?