



Hebrews: Jesus is Better

Lesson 8: Run the Race! The Torch of Faith is Now Yours. (November 16 & 17)

Read Hebrews 10:26-39

1. Describe a time in your life when you needed to have confidence in an uncertain circumstance?

2. If for the original Jewish Christian readers, “sinning deliberately” (verse 26) was largely about going back to Old Testament Judaism with its high priests and sacrifices, what would be an equivalent for us now?

3. In ways in your life has God’s faithfulness kept you following Christ with faith and endurance?

4. The preacher describes the struggles and perseverance that the people he is writing to have experienced since they came to know Christ (Heb. 10:32-34). How would this encourage them, and how should it encourage us in our own very real struggles?

Read Hebrews 11

5. Describe someone you admire? What are their character qualities that are most worthy of emulation?

6. How would you define faith based on verses 11:1-3?

7. How do verses 11:13-16 challenge your idea of faith and your expectations for this life?

8. Pick one of the Old Testament figures listed in chapter 11 and describe how they demonstrated that “faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen”?

9. Although we tend to think of the people listed in this chapter as heroes, each of them acted far from perfectly as humans. What can we learn from this?

Read Hebrews 12:1-11

10. People often have a love/hate relationship with the word discipline. What role do you think discipline has in the life of a Christian?

11. Verse 1 encourages us to “lay aside every weight and sin.” What are examples of weights in your life that are making it hard to run the race?

12. How is Jesus a better example of faith than all of the people listed in Chapter 11?

13. When we look at ‘heroes’ of the faith we tend to desire their character and maturity, but we don’t relish in the suffering that helped them become who they are. How can fixing our eyes on Jesus help us not grow weary or lose heart?

14. What do verses 5-11 describe about the purpose of God’s discipline?

15. How have you sensed or experienced the Lord’s discipline in your life? What did you learn and how were you changed to be more like Christ?