

FAITH TO FINISH THE RACE

Hebrews 12:1-29

RUNNING YOUR RACE WILL BE DIFFICULT (vss. 1-11)

- “If you require earthly validation for your faith, you won’t make it.” – JD Greear
- God never promised to take away all of our problems in this life, but He did promise He would be with us and see us through it.
- We need to change our perspective from seeing God’s discipline as punishment to seeing it as training in maturity from a place of love.

STRENGTH AND CONDITIONING IS ESSENTIAL FOR YOUR RACE (vss. 12-17)

- Our strength is found in the Lord as we walk faithfully with Him.
- Our strength in Christ grows as we pursue peace and holiness.

THE BLOOD OF CHRIST CARRIES US ACROSS THE FINISH LINE (vss. 18-24)

- Those who are in Christ have been redeemed by His blood and will enter His eternal kingdom that can never be shaken.

FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST IS THE ONLY ESCAPE FROM JUDGMENT (vss. 25-29)

- Every person that has ever lived, or will live in the future, will stand before the Lord, yet only those who have been born again in Christ will enter into Heaven.

CONNECT GROUP DISCUSSION

Observation

- According to verse 1, what are believers instructed to lay aside in order to run the race of faith?
- What does it mean that Jesus is the “pioneer and perfecter of our faith,” and how did He model endurance (v. 2)?
- What does verses 5–11 teach us about the purpose of God’s discipline in our lives?

Understanding

- What are some “weights” or distractions that make it harder for you to run your race of faith with endurance?
- How do you usually respond to God’s discipline—do you see it more as punishment or as training in love?
- In what ways does looking to Jesus help you endure when life feels exhausting?
- How do peace and holiness (v. 14) play a role in helping us grow stronger in our faith?
- What difference does it make in your daily life to know that Christ has already secured victory and eternal life for you?
- Verse 28 reminds us that we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken. How can this truth help you live with gratitude, reverence, and boldness in your faith?

Loving Outward:

- Who do you need to share the gospel with this week?
- Who do you need to follow-up with regarding the gospel?
- Who are you bringing to church next Sunday?

****Connect Group Discussion on Back****