

**July 23, 2023**

**Series:** Hold Fast

**Sermon:** Hold Fast to Jesus

**Primary Text:** Hebrews 10:26-39

**Discussion Guide:**

- Have you ever experienced a time in your life you felt you were just “holding on for dear life?”
  - What kind of experiences/memories/lessons did you lean on to give you the endurance to hold on in those situations?
- William Barclay calls the deliberate sin mentioned in Hebrews “the kind of sin into which people enter with their eyes wide open.” What kind of imagery does this bring to mind? What can this tell us about the different “types” of sin we encounter in our lives?
  - John Stott, in his book *The Cross of Christ*, makes the statement that for much of the world, the very idea of “sin” has been lightened or trivialized.
    - Why is it so tempting and easy to make excuses for sin?
    - Contrast that attitude with the statements in Hebrews 10 about the severity of sin. How does that translate into our daily lives?
- The author of Hebrews mentions “knowledge of THE truth” in verse 10:26.
  - What is significant about of “the truth” in this passage?
  - What does this imply about sin and the world around us today?
- In another quote from William Barclay, he says, “It is a truth of life that, in many ways, it is easier to stand adversity than to stand prosperity. Comfort has ruined far more people than trouble ever did.”
  - As we interact with our daily life, how/where do we see this truth play out in our lives?
- Read Luke 6:22-23
  - How does this understanding of persecution/suffering differ from that of other world religions/worldviews/philosophies/etc?
- Read Romans 5:3-6
  - How does rejoicing in our suffering uniquely equip us to practice compassion and serve those in need?
- Donald Guthrie, in his commentary on Hebrews, writes “It is one of the marks of a mature Christian that he has a view of God’s will which makes provision for adverse happenings when they come...the promises of God are utterly dependable.”
  - How does an understanding of God’s promises and His unchanging nature affect our endurance?
  - What are some practices we can put into place to build our endurance for whatever may come?