



# Finishing Well!

Hebrews 12:1-4

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All Scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted. • Pastor Joe's email is Joe@SouthReno.com

## 1. Remember the Saints.

**Hebrews 12:1-3, NASB** -<sup>1</sup> *Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us...*

**Hebrews 12:1-3, MSG** -<sup>1</sup> *Do you see what this means—all these pioneers who blazed the way, all these veterans cheering us on? It means we'd better get on with it. Strip down, start running—and never quit! No extra spiritual fat, no parasitic sins.<sup>2</sup> Keep your eyes on Jesus (is what they shout).*

**Hebrews 11:6, NIV** -<sup>6</sup> *And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to Him must believe that He exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.*

Able Enoch Noah Abraham Sarah  
Isaac Jacob Joseph Moses  
Israelites Rahab

**Hebrews 11:38-39, NIV** -<sup>38</sup> *the world was not worthy of them. They wandered in deserts and mountains, living in caves and in holes in the ground.<sup>39</sup> These were all commended for their faith...*

## 2. Remove the Sin.

**Hebrews 12:1, NASB** -<sup>1</sup> *Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us...*

**Hebrews 12:1-2, NLT** -<sup>1</sup> *Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up. And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us.<sup>2</sup> We do this by keeping our eyes on Jesus, the champion who initiates and perfects our faith....*

## 3. Renew Your Focus.

**Hebrews 12:2-4, MSG** -<sup>2</sup> *Keep your eyes on Jesus, who both began and finished this race we're in. Study how he did it. Because he never lost sight of where he was headed—that exhilarating finish in and with God—he could put up with anything along the way: Cross, shame, whatever. And now he's there, in the place of honor, right alongside God.<sup>3</sup> When you find yourselves flagging in your faith, go over that story again, item by item, that long litany of hostility he plowed through. That will shoot adrenaline into your souls!<sup>4</sup> In this all-out match against sin, others have suffered far worse than you, to say nothing of what Jesus went through—all that bloodshed!*

**Hebrews 12:2-4, NLT** -<sup>2</sup> *We do this by keeping our eyes on Jesus, the champion who initiates and perfects our faith. Because of the joy awaiting him, he endured the cross, disregarding its shame. Now he is seated in the place of honor beside God's throne.<sup>3</sup> Think of all the hostility he endured from sinful people; then you won't become weary and give up.<sup>4</sup> After all, you have not yet given your lives in your struggle against sin.*



TURN YOUR EYES UPON JESUS  
Words by Helen Howarth Lemmel

Turn your eyes upon Jesus,  
Look full in His wonderful face,  
And the things of earth will grow strongly dim,  
In the light of His glory and grace.