



COMMUNITY GROUP STUDY GUIDE

STEADFAST PERSEVERANCE

FOLLOW UP & ACCOUNTABILITY FROM THE WEEK BEFORE

1. Pray about a step of faith that God is asking you to take. Take some time this week to really meditate on God's Word and listen for His voice and guiding.
2. Make that step of faith public to 1 trusted person you would call a believer. Brainstorm with them about what this looks like and make sure its more about God than it is about you!
3. Go vegan! Just kidding, but hey take some time to eat healthier this week!

AWAKEN THE CONVERSATION *As you begin the discussion portion of you Community Group, take a few minutes to break the ice and get everyone talking. Either use this question or one you come up with!*

- Share with the group a time where you had to exercise endurance in your life.
- Share with the group a time when you wanted to quit something or maybe did because it was tough!

CONTEXT

Often when anyone experiences pain, drama, discipline, or correction, it can be easy to just run away, withdrawal, assume that people are out to get us, or even worse want to hurt them back in a way that makes them "pay." But at the end of it all, our response reveals our maturity and trust in Christ. This book is written to Jewish Christians who chose to follow Christ on the basis of seeing and hearing about what Jesus did on their behalf. The danger of pain is that it has the potential to cause us to fall away from the faith.

Pain and discipline are powerful teachers but horrible masters, but if we use them to help us focus on how we can grow into being more like Christ and using them as opportunity to showcase God's great love for people, then they are treasures.

The chapter before, Hebrews 11, focuses on those who had faith and endured a ton of pain, trouble, and heartache, yet still came out on top. As you dig into the passages today, maybe take some time to talk about the troubles that those in Chapter 11 faced and how they might spur you on to build some grit, resilience, trust and faith in that God is with you every step of the way. The examples that are written down for us are so we can see how their faith flourished in the midst of chaos, and how we might emulate that in our present world and situations today.

PASSAGES (Read out loud together or read separately)

Hebrews 11

Hebrews 12:1-13

Revelation - Chapters 2 & 3 (you dont have to read it all just maybe turn and look)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS - *Get the conversation rolling, adapt them to your group and how the conversation is going and what they need! Do you have to run through them all, No; can you add in questions? Yes!*

1. What story or example of faith stands out to you from Hebrews 11?
2. If your faith story was written down in a few verses, what would it say?
3. What does it mean when the Bible says “without faith it is impossible to please God?”
4. What type of joy and encouragement does it bring to you when the Bible talks about we are surrounded by a cloud of witnesses?
5. How does Jesus facing hostility, hate, anger, and shame encourage you to keep your mind and eyes right in your own situation?
6. What’s been some of the worst advice you’ve received in tough times in your life? How does this passage combat that?
7. How does being a Christian and having faith change one’s perspective on discipline?
8. What type of discipline did the churches in the book of Revelation face and hear from Jesus? Is any of their discipline applicable to your life?

ACTION STEP(S) - *As James, says, “Faith without works is dead,” there must be some movement and some accountability to what we’ve heard. Be brave, trust God, and grow in your faith by putting some motion into your life!*

1. Choose something you can begin doing for the next 7 days that’s considered a new discipline that’ll help you grow!
2. Who might you allow access in your life to help you with godly discipline? In other words who can help you grow spiritually?
3. Who is someone you might go and encourage with this passage of scripture and help walk alongside them in their difficult time?