

## Hebrews Chapter Six : Jesus the Beginner and Finisher of Faith

### Opening Question:

How does learning that what English Bibles translate as “pressing on to maturity,” in Hebrews 6:1 actually reads “let us be carried away to maturity,” something done not by but to the believer, impact your understanding of the Christian life?

### Key Takeaways:

1. The meaning of several words in chapter 6 are often mistranslated in English and a proper understanding of the Greek words and how the author has already used them in the letter will be necessary to track the message of this book.
2. There is a common misunderstanding of the message of Hebrews chapter 6 as a warning of loss of salvation.
3. The author is using Old Testament examples, both good and bad, in his letter to show his audience how God deals with His children, both through discipline and through commendation.
4. The Old Testament illustrations that the author chooses to make his case show the LORD's discipline and not loss of salvation.
5. The example of Moses is a compelling reason to believe that loss of salvation is not in view in this letter as he both “fell” in the wilderness for disobedience and is highlighted for acting “by faith” several times in chapter 11.
6. The two options presented by the author of Hebrews for his audience is either endure suffering and be carried along by the word of Christ to completion at His return, or rebel against Christ and “fall” as they did in the wilderness at the hand of the LORD's discipline.

### Discussion Questions:

1. How is the author making the point that his readers are fearing the wrong people? Who are they fearing and why? Whom should they fear and why?
2. Re-read chapter 6 together and discuss the following words now that you have a clearer idea of their actual meaning: elementary (v.1), maturity (v.1), press on (v.1), full assurance (6:1)., Make the connection of the author's argument by how these terms have already been used in the letter.
3. How does the reality of the LORD's discipline, even to the point of death, inform your understanding of His faithfulness?

### **Practical Application:**

1. Re-listen to the TMTB Hebrews 6 podcast and make note of the meaning of the words in this chapter as explained by Dr. Klingler.
2. Set aside time this week to re-read the entire book of Hebrews and think through the author's message and the illustrations he is using to make his point. Remember that the simplicity of the author's argument comes through his illustrations.
3. Consider the often neglected truth of the LORD's faithfulness even in His discipline and why fear is a proper response to the LORD and His Christ.

### **Closing Prayer:**

Father,

Thank You that knowing You through Your Word includes knowing that You discipline those You love in accordance to Your faithful character. May we learn from the illustration of the Old Testament saints who You have commended for their faith as well as those that You have disciplined for their rebellion. Having begun in faith we desire to be among those who press on in endurance until Christ returns.