

# THE GOD OF ABRAHAM, ISAAC & JACOB

SEEING CHRIST THROUGH STRUGGLING SAINTS



## Hebrew 12:1-2

**1** Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, **2** looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

# How To Run The Race Of Faith

1. spiritually fit
2. spiritually free
3. spiritually focused

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, **let us also lay aside every weight**, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,

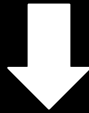
1. Is there something in your life that you run to first when you are feeling negative emotion?
1. After going to that thing, does it make you more mindful of God and others or more self-focused?

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, **and sin which clings so closely**, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,

“sin which clings so closely”

*To entangle or trap*

Distractions slow us down in  
the race of faith



Sin trap as so we can't run in  
the race of faith



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Spiritual fitness and spiritual freedom completely comes down to where our focus is

## Hebrews 12:2

“...looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.”

Jesus not only wasn't tempted by sin, **but He ran the race His father laid out for Him** all the way to the cross where he endured the most torturous and shame filled death, **to set us free from from our sin.**

To grow in spiritual fitness and spiritual freedom  
is to gain greater focus on the person of Jesus.