

SEQUOIA NOTES

Today's Sequoia Message...

Remember Your Map

With Ryan Dawson - Lead Pastor
February 5, 2023



How do you enjoy the journey and finish well?

- **Run your race with endurance.**

Hebrews 12:1(NLT)“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.”

Hebrews 11:3-40 (NLT) “All these people earned a good reputation because of the faith, yet none of them received all that God promised. For God had something better in mind for us, so that they would not reach perfection without us.”

- **Remember Christ your Champion.**

Hebrews 12:2-4 (NLT) “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 honour beside God’s throne. ³ Think of all the hostility he endured from sinful people; then you won’t become weary and give up. ⁴ After all, you have not yet given your lives in your struggle against sin.”

- **Receive God’s discipline.**

Hebrews 12:5-11 (NLT) And have you forgotten the encouraging words God spoke to you as his children? He said, “My child, don’t make light of the Lord’s discipline, and don’t give up when he corrects you. ⁶ For the Lord disciplines those he loves, and he punishes each one he accepts as his child.” ⁷ As you endure this divine discipline, remember that God is treating you as his own children. Who ever heard of a child who is never disciplined by its father? ⁸ If God doesn’t discipline you as he does all of his children, it means that you are illegitimate and are not really his children at all. ⁹ Since we respected our earthly fathers who disciplined us, shouldn’t we submit even more to the discipline of the Father of our spirits, and live forever? ¹⁰ For our earthly fathers disciplined us for a few years, doing the best they knew how. But God’s discipline is always good for us, so that we might share in his holiness. ¹¹ No discipline is enjoyable while it is happening—it’s painful! But afterward there will be a peaceful harvest of right living for those who are trained in this way.

2 Timothy 3:16 (NLT) “All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right.”

St. Augustine “You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our heart is restless until it rests in you.”

Isaiah 30:15 (NLT) “Only in returning to me and resting in me will you be saved. In quietness and confidence is your strength. But you would have none of it.”

v. 11 “No discipline is enjoyable while it is happening—it’s painful! But afterward there will be a **peaceful harvest of right living for those who are trained in this way.**”

- **Renew your grip.**

Hebrews 12:12-13(NLT) “So take a new grip with your tired hands and strengthen your weak knees. ¹³ Mark out a straight path for your feet so that those who are weak and lame will not fall but become strong.”

Matthew 6:33 (ESV) “But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.”

What is God asking you to do to “renew your spiritual grip”?

- **Pursue your relationship with Jesus.**
- **Become a person of prayer.**
- **Commit to Gospel community.**
- **Prioritize time in God’s Word.**

Big Idea: Focus on Christ to run with endurance in the way of Jesus.



Sequoia Impact Communities are where we
live out our identity as a
Family of Servants on Mission.

To get plugged in email:

impactcommunities@sequoiachurch.org

Remember Your Map

#5 of 5 - February 5, 2023

- 1) Last week we talked about “not travelling alone” on our journey with Jesus. What did you hear or sense God saying to you this week about the importance of Christ-centred community. What steps did you take to prioritize this?
- 2) What word you you use to describe how you feel about your faith journey at this point? Keep this in mind as you approach Scripture asking God to speak to you.
- 3) Read Hebrews 12:1-13. What is the **Context** for these passages? Where is this taking place in the book as a whole (what comes before or after)? Who is the writer / speaker and who are the recipients? Where does it fit in the Bible? What’s the theme of this chapter, or passage? What’s the historical and cultural context?
- 4) **Observation:** What “jumps out” in these passages? What interesting details do you observe? What questions come up about these passages? What image does the writer use to help us understand the discipleship journey?
- 5) **Meaning:** What was the meaning for the original recipients? What does it mean for us as we seek to be disciples of Christ? What was the “joy set before Jesus?” What role does God’s discipline play in helping us grow? How does this encourage and challenge you as you seek to “run your race”?
- 6) Read 2 Timothy 3:16 and Matthew 6:33. What do these passages tell us about the importance of God’s Word in our pursuit of Jesus?
- 7) **Application:** How is God speaking to you through these verses and through this message? What specific action step is God asking you to take in light of this teaching?
- 8) How did this study give you perspective on your faith journey to date?



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