

“Jesus, Our Endurance!”

Hebrews 12:1-17

I) LOOK TO JESUS! (v1-2)

- > What sins are weighing you down? Lighten up! **BELIEVE!** (Romans 5:1-11; 8:1-7)
- > What sins ensnare you? (Insight: Galatians ch. 5:16-26; 1 Corinthians 10:13; 1 John 1:4-2:2)
- > Are you always **LOOKING TO JESUS, THE AUTHOR AND FINISHER OF OUR FAITH?**
- > What did Jesus do for you? **ENDURED THE CROSS, DESPISING THE SHAME!**
- > For what reason? For the **JOY** that was set before Him! **REJOICE!** - Jude 24-25 - *To him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy—to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! Amen.*

II) LISTEN TO THE FATHER! (v3-11)

- > Who should we consider when facing difficult times? Imitate Jesus - He never quit! Philippians 3:7-14
- > Why does the LORD chasten us? *Because He **LOVES** us!*
- > What do we profit or partake of through chastening? His holiness)
- > What does chastening yield? **RIGHTEOUSNESS** – *Right **THINKING**, Right **SPEAKING**, Right **LIVING**, Right **LOVING!***

*Dr. Newel’s advice: Three simple keys to raising a child:

Key #1 - **TRAINING** - The parent cannot let the child have all its own way; not that he arbitrarily desires to deprive the child of all will, but to bring him to intelligently and gladly choose as the parent so plainly sees is best for him. (**DECISION**)

Key #2 – **GUIDING** - The parent, though he may cross the present choice of the child, eagerly yields to any inclination on the child’s part to choose what the parent shows is best for him. He does not withhold any privilege the child is ready wisely to choose. (**DIRECTION**)

Key #3 – **DISCIPLINE** - The great objective of the parent is that the child shall one day be free from restraint, because his choosing has become so habitually wise as to need no further restraint. (**DESTINY**)

- > **If you’ve gone through the school of God’s discipline you’re in good company:**

Examples of Discipline - *Abraham* - continuous sibling rivalry

Moses - no promise land

Samson - no strength

David - lost a baby

Paul - a thorn in the flesh for humility

(Observe “*chastening*” in 1 Corinthians 11:27-32.)

III) LIVE THE CHRISTIAN LIFE! (v12-17)

- > Who are you strengthening today? *Jesus said “**LOVE** your neighbor as yourself” & “whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them”*
- > Are your paths straight? (*Read Psalm 5*)
- > Who do you need to pursue **PEACE** with? Matthew 5:9 - *Jesus said- “**BLESSED** are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.”*
 - Are you bitter toward anyone?
 - What is the result of bitterness? *Causes **TROUBLE** and many are **DEFILED**.*
 - How is your pursuit of Holiness? A B C D (No “F”s— come to faith in Christ!)
 - What did Esau miss out on? *The **BLESSING!***

Let’s Go 4 God!