

## Life Group questions for Hebrews 12:1-2, The Happiness of the Father's Son

Begin your discussion at the beginning: List some of the reasons we are able to say we worship a *happy* God.

Reed took a bit of a detour at the beginning of his teaching, looking at 1 Timothy 1:11 which reads in the ESV,

*... gospel of the glory of the blessed God with which I have been entrusted. (ESV)*

We found that the word translated *blessed* is often translated *happiness*, or *happy*, in other places in the New Testament. John Piper, Randy Alcorn among others believe our translators should have used the word *happy* in 1 Timothy 1:11.

Why do you think the ESV, NIV and other translations avoid the word *happy*? What difference does this make?

The main point of our investigation into Hebrews 12:1-2 was that Jesus was happy even as he faced the cross. In other words, Jesus was happy even as he agonized over the cross.

How could he be both happy and sad at the same time?

What was *the joy set before* Jesus in Hebrews 12:2? Why was Jesus able to have joy (happiness) as he faced the cross?

How did this teaching enable you to face life's trials as a happy believer even in the dark seasons of life.

Respond to the following quotation by Charles Spurgeon:

1 Timothy 1:11 says, The Gospel is the Gospel of happiness. It is called 'the glorious Gospel of the blessed God.' A more correct translation would be, 'the happy God.' Well then, adorn the Gospel by being happy...