

Persevering Together

Hebrews 12:14-17

Watch Your Own Walk

- Purposefully cultivating peace and holiness
- Strive for peace with everyone, knowing that...
 - Peace-making isn't always peace achieving
 - It's not peace at all costs
- Holiness: A spiritual truth that grows as a practical reality

Watch Over One Another

- The spiritual well-being of others is a priority
- Watch that no one falls short of God's grace
 - Remembering that participation is not the same as possession
- Watch that unbelief doesn't spread
 - It can devastate the whole community
- Watch that no one follows Esau's example
 - They become spiritually poisonous to others

"Pursue one another, encourage one another, keep pointing one another back to the grace of God in Christ."

For Life Group Discussion

Hebrews 12:14-17

1. Have you thought about the relationship between your spiritual health and the overall health of the church? Does the illustration regarding oxygen masks help? If so, how?

2. Read Hebrews 12:14 and consider...

- How does the word "strive" combat the idea of passive faith? How do you balance human effort with the Spirit's activity?
- Are there relationships in your life that are not "harmonious and non-hostile"? Is there a part you play in that ongoing conflict? How can you apply Rom 12:18?
- Read 1 Pet 1:13-16. Can you look back on your Christian life and see that you have become increasingly holy over time? Why or why not? What is holding you back, right now, from a life of greater obedience?

3. Read Hebrews 12:15-17 and consider...

- Do you make the spiritual health of others a priority? How? What can we learn from Heb 10:23-25?
- Do you suspect that a brother or sister is drifting away from Jesus? Why? And what are you going to do about it?
- Read 2 Tim 2:15-18. How is this an example of the author's point in our passage? How do we recognize and stop the spread of spiritual poison in our own congregation?