

DAY 22 — Run With Endurance: Carrying the Baton Forward - Focused on Jesus

Aim of Today's Study

To finish this 22-day journey by embracing endurance as the daily expression of courage over clarity—laying aside what slows us down, fixing our eyes on Jesus, and carrying the baton of faith forward into mission and obedience.

Anchor Passages

Hebrews 12:1–4

Matthew 28:18–20

Acts 1:10–11

Study Passages

- **Hebrews 12:1–4** — Run with endurance by fixing your eyes on Jesus
- **Matthew 28:18–20** — The Great Commission: endure with purpose and mission
- **Acts 1:10–11** — Don't stand staring—live in light of His return

Summary for the Day

Yesterday we ended with this truth: God is still writing the story. Hebrews 11 was never meant to be read like a museum exhibit—heroes behind glass, faith sealed in the past. It was written as a handoff—a baton placed into ordinary hands.

That's why Hebrews 12 begins with one powerful word: "Therefore..."

Because of their faith.

Because of their endurance.

Because they ran their leg of the race.

Now it's our turn.

Hebrews says we are surrounded by a "great cloud of witnesses." They're not watching to critique you—they're witnessing to you. They're testifying: *God is faithful. Obedience is worth it. Suffering isn't wasted. Endurance matters.*

And what does God call us to do? Not sprint. Not impress. Not burn out.

Run with endurance. Endurance is courage stretched over time—faith when clarity doesn't come, when progress feels slow, when obedience costs more than you expected, and when quitting would be easier.

Hebrews also tells us to lay aside not only sin—but weight. Some things slowing you down aren't sinful—they're just heavy: comfort, fear, control, the need to understand everything first. You cannot run freely while holding what God is asking you to release.

Then comes the center of everything: fix your eyes on Jesus.

Not on the outcome. Not on uncertainty. Not on the timeline.

****On Jesus—****the Founder and Perfecter of our faith. He endured the cross. He despised the shame. He finished the race. And now He is seated in glory—and He is coming again.

And endurance always leads to mission. Jesus didn't save us to stand still—He sent us: “Go and make disciples...” (Matthew 28). When the disciples stared into the sky after His ascension, the angels asked: “Why do you stand here looking into heaven?” (Acts 1). In other words: don't just admire what Jesus has done—live in light of it.

Courage over clarity isn't passive waiting. It's faithful movement.
It's carrying the baton forward.

Life Application: Endurance Looks Like This

- Let go of what slows you down (weight and sin)
- Fix your eyes on Jesus daily (not your fear, not your feelings)
- Keep running even when you don't feel strong
- Live on mission while you wait for His return

Reflection Questions

1. What “weight” is slowing your endurance right now—even if it isn't sinful?
2. Where are you tempted to stop running because clarity hasn't come?
3. What does it look like today to “fix your eyes on Jesus” in a practical way?
4. How is God calling you to carry the baton of faith into your home, work, or campus?
5. If Jesus returned soon, what would you want to be found doing faithfully?

Closing Prayer: Jesus, thank You for running the race before me and finishing what I never could. Teach me to endure—not with perfect clarity, but with steady courage. Help me lay aside every weight and fix my eyes on You. Fill me with faith to keep going, and courage to live on mission until You return. Maranatha—come, Lord Jesus