January 22

Hebrews 12:1 (NIV) ¹ Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.

At church one night we were discussing some of the dreams we had been having. One person shared that in her dream the owner of a house was very busy. She was moving from one room of the house to the other with much on her mind. Then another person pointed out that she had found a small bug in the kitchen. The owner of the house saw that it was just a little bug so was not very concerned. The owner went about her business, addressing issues that were more pressing. Waking one morning, the owner went to the kitchen. There she found it covered in the small bugs. Here the dream ended.

After hearing the dream, I saw the danger of not paying attention to the "little" things that arise in our lives. I remember years ago that my car developed a strange noise. It was not very loud and could not be heard under normal conditions, so I let it go. Over time the noise became more persistent and less easy to ignore. When I finally took it to a mechanic, I discovered that the engine needed to be rebuilt because of damage. That "little bug" could represent a sin that seems very minor. It could represent an irritation that left alone will breed more anger. It could be a hint of unforgiveness that soon becomes a raging bitterness. We tend to focus on the major issues in our lives. However, Jesus will often show us the "little bugs" so that they do not become major issues.