



Better (Hebrews)

Sermon Questions | 05.24.15

Opener

What does it look like to enjoy the Christian life? The author of Hebrews compares the Christian life to a race that Jesus knows you will finish. Picking the right path (the trusting God path), has everything to with whether you enjoy the race or not.

The author of Hebrews gives us three coaching tips for the race at hand: stop sabotaging yourself, throw off the sin entangling you, and run the race with endurance.

Read

Hebrews 12:1-3

Engaging with God in a Group

When you think of a cross-country race, what images come to mind? Are you enjoying the race (the Christian life) or has joy given way to weariness or even exhaustion?

Hebrews 12:1 describes a great cloud of witnesses surrounding us. Much like the onlookers at the end of a marathon, they are cheering you on. How does knowing this change your perspective of the race being running?

The word “hinder” can actually refer to a tumor, mass, or excess weight. What things hinder you from running well? What kinds of things, not necessarily sinful, sabotage a person’s race with Jesus?

Sin can entangle us and make the race much more difficult. Have you ever experienced a time when sin made your race a chore instead of a joy?

Pete mentioned the importance of running on the right path. We can choose the pleasing God path or the trusting God path. Which path are you currently choosing? Have you ever been exhausted because you were trying rather than trusting? Hebrews 12:2 calls us to fix our eyes on Jesus (meaning to intently look or fixate on Jesus). Why are we called to fix our eyes on Jesus? What are some common distractions that keep us from focusing on Jesus?

Engaging with God Alone

Have you ever found yourself distracted in the Christian Life in ways that you did not share with the group? Call out to the Lord about those.

Closing thoughts and prayer

Take a moment to ask the Holy Spirit to show you how he wants to work in your Christian life. Ask him to give you endurance for the race at hand and show you areas of your life that may need some attention, in order to run the trusting God race with joy.