

House Church Gathering Discussion Questions

Sunday November 16
"Live With Perseverance"

Scripture: Hebrews 12:1-3

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, ² fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. ³ Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

Summary: When we follow the false "Jesus" our culture promotes, we are in danger of falling away from the faith since that "Americanized Jesus" will inevitably disappoint. Jesus finished the race of faith he is calling us to run, so he can help us persevere to the end. Don't let our American culture inform your view of Jesus, but study and fix your eyes on the Jesus of the Scriptures. Allow Jesus to ask you to do hard things. Look to Jesus as your prize at the finish line of this life. Expect difficulty in life and cling to Jesus in the hardest miles of this race.

Discussion Questions:

Have you ever been tempted to quit the race? What was going on in your life or in your thought process that led you to this temptation?

Pastor EJ said we need to answer three questions:

- (1) "Is your Jesus allowed to ask you to do hard things?"
- (2) "Is your Jesus the prize you look for at the finish line?"
- (3) Is your Jesus someone you can cling to in the hardest miles?

Which of these questions is hardest for you to answer, "yes" to? Why?

What do you need to trust about Jesus so that you can answer "Yes" to each of these? How might that change the way you run your race?

Are there any that you feel particularly convinced of beginning pursuing anew?