



## SO HOLD FAST

### Endure in Hope

Hebrews 12:1-14

1. In Hebrews 12, the writer presents five intertwined aspects of enduring in hope:  
*1) Looking to our "cloud of witnesses"; 2) Throwing off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles; 3) Fixing our eyes on Jesus; 4) Welcoming discipline from God; and 5) Making every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy.* Which of these comes easiest for you? Which is the most difficult for you?
2. Hebrews 12:1a tells us that *"we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses ..."* Who are some people in **your** *"cloud of witnesses"*? How do they strengthen you?
3. What does it mean to *"throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles"*? (Hebrews 12:1b). What are some things that tend to hinder you? How might these things lead to sin patterns that can lead to *"entanglement"*?
4. Regarding Hebrews 12:1c, does knowing that the *"race"* you are running is *"marked out"* bring you comfort? Anxiety? Both? (Discuss in your group).
5. Describe the importance of *"fixing our eyes on Jesus"* (Hebrews 12:2). How does fixing our eyes on Jesus help us to see the race *"marked out for us"* more clearly?
6. Have you experienced discipline from the Lord (or are you now experiencing discipline from the Lord)? Describe your experience and how it has shaped you, or is shaping you.
7. In your own words, what does it mean to *"make every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy"*? (Hebrews 12:14). What does it *not* mean? Why is this so challenging?
8. Hebrews 12:14b says that *"Without holiness no one will see the Lord."* If you are a follower of Jesus Christ, why are these words enormously comforting?
9. Hebrews 12:2 states that Jesus is the *"pioneer and perfecter of our faith."* How is Christ working in your life right now to bring to completion the good work that he began in you?