

Message Notes
Embracing the Journey
May 6, 2007
Pastor Tim Falling

Primary Text: Hebrews 12:1-13

Additional Texts: James 1:2-4, 12, Hebrews 10:32-36

Few things of true value in this life are achieved without significant effort put forth over a sustained period of time.

Verse 1: Strip off every weight, especially sin in our lives.

Question: Are there things that you are currently doing that are hindering you from doing what God has asked you to do with your life?

Run the race with endurance.

Verse 2: Keep our eyes on Jesus.
 Perfect Model
 Source of Strength and Encouragement
 The Way to heaven

Verse 3-11: God is in control and what we are going through has a purpose.

Struggles bring about growth and maturity.

Understand: There are no easy, pain-free short cuts. We need to embrace the journey that God has for our lives. Take a new grip with tired hands, and commit to the rest of the journey.

Key word: Perseverance – the ability to continue to run and to finish the race in spite of the many difficulties that come along the way.

Key Points:

It takes a lot of work to get a little bit better.

Set realistic goals and plans for improvement.

We start with great enthusiasm, but it is hard to sustain that effort.

There are no quick and easy solutions.

Don't give up or choose to do nothing.

Discipline is painful.

Don't be lured into the latest get-rich-quick scheme.

Progress is not always steady or consistent.

The race requires endurance.

Biblical Hall of Fame for Heroes of the Faith:

Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Sarah, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, Rahab, Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel and the prophets.

“Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses...”

Stay on course, and run with endurance the race that God has set before you.