

GoDeeper



CONTINUE THE CONVERSATION WITH YOUR SMALL GROUP, FAMILY, OR IN YOUR PERSONAL BIBLE STUDY TIME.

Running With Endurance | Pastor Steve Wells | 06.27.2021
Replay message at: <http://www.northpointeFL.org/messages>

Hebrews 12:1 "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"

This morning Pastor Steve spoke about how we are all running the race of this life. Hebrews 12:1 tells us that this is not a quick sprint but an endurance race. Pastor Steve reminded us that our reason and purpose for running this race is not for ourselves, but to do two things:

- 1.) Bring Glory to God
 - 2.) Point people to Jesus and tell them that Jesus IS coming soon.
- How do you work to bring Glory to God?
 - Can you think of something specific that brought Him Glory?
 - What can/will you begin doing to bring Him Glory?
 - How do you point people to Jesus?
 - Do you know of anyone who came to know Jesus because of you?
 - Do you tell people that Jesus is coming soon?
 - How do you begin to tell someone that Jesus is coming?

2 Timothy 4:7 "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith."

Hebrews 12:2-4 "2 We do this by keeping our eyes on Jesus, the champion who initiates and perfects our faith. Because of the joy awaiting him, he endured the cross, disregarding its shame. Now he is seated in the place of honor beside God's throne. 3 Think of all the hostility he endured from sinful people; then you won't become weary and give up. 4 After all, you have not yet given your lives in your struggle against sin."

We know we will (and do) face hardships throughout our lives. We unfortunately do not get to pick our hardships or challenges that come our way. Often these challenges are harder than we imagined and heavier than we can carry alone. It is during these times we need to remember to keep (they should always be there) our eyes on Jesus.

- Have you ever felt like you couldn't see the finish line or the end of the challenge you were (or are) facing?
 - What did you do?
- Have you ever taken your eyes off of Jesus during a time of struggle--and then turned back to Him?
 - What changes did you see? What changes did you feel?

Hebrews 12:12-13 "12 So take a new grip with your tired hands and strengthen your weak knees. 13 Mark out a straight path for your feet so that those who are weak and lame will not fall but become strong."

1 Peter 1:6-7 "6 So be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead, even though you must endure many trials for a little while. 7 These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold—though your faith is far more precious than mere gold. So when your faith remains strong through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world."

- What stood out to you from today's message? What keeps replaying in your mind?
- Do you feel like you can say "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith."?
 - If not, what will you change?
- What can you do as a Small Group or Family to:
 - Keep your eyes on Jesus
 - Glorify God
 - Point people to Jesus
 - Tell People HE is coming soon

This morning Pastor Steve ended his message saying "What God leaves you will be more valuable than what He takes from you." Have you experienced this yet for yourself? If so and you feel comfortable please share your story with your Small Group and your family.

