

Sermon Discussion Guide: Persevering (Hebrews 12:1-3)

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Scripture Focus: Hebrews 12:1-3

1. The passage speaks about a "great cloud of witnesses." Who are some of the spiritual influences in your life that have encouraged you to persevere in faith?

Discussion Questions:

1. The Three Approaches to Faith

- The sermon describes three types of believers:
 1. Those whose faith does not change their lives.
 2. Those who practice a "religion of do-goodism."
 3. Those who go "all in" as true disciples.
- How can we help people grow as disciples in #1 and #2?

2. Meeting People Where They Are

- Jesus met people in their real-life circumstances and lifted them up. How can we practice this in our own lives?

3. Throwing Off Hindrances

- Hebrews 12:1 calls us to "throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles." What are some distractions or sins that entangle believers today?
- The sermon mentions that even good things (e.g., news, social media, community activities) can entangle us. How do we discern what needs to be "thrown off" in our own lives?
- Who in your life helps you recognize when you're entangled and encourages you to refocus on Jesus?

4. Fixing Our Eyes on Jesus

- Hebrews 12:2-3 encourages us to fix our eyes on Jesus, who endured the cross by focusing on the joy set before Him.
- What are some practical ways to keep our focus on Jesus daily?

Personal Reflection:

- What is your beginning story of faith? How has it shaped your journey?
- Will the current focus of your life help you finish the race of faith well? If not, what needs to change?