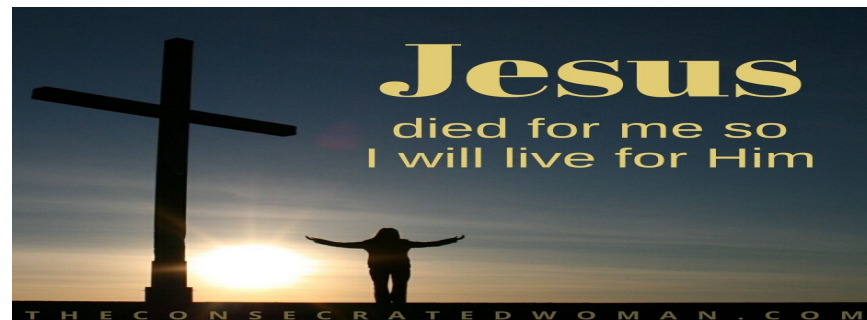


5. Read Hebrews 12:12-13. In Scripture, Jesus is wisdom personified. How does making level paths correspond to walking in wisdom? What might that look like practically? What are the implications for our choices regarding what we think, say, believe, and do, and how do those choices impact our ability to live lives of wisdom?



Sunday, February 4, 2024

A Life That Honors God
4. Striving Against Sin
Hebrews 12:1-13

Four ways we fight sin:

1. Lay _____ aside. (v. 1)

2. Run with _____. (vv. 1-4)

3. Embrace _____. (vv. 5-11)

4. _____. (vv. 12-13)

6. What personal needs has the Holy Spirit exposed during this study? How can we pray with you about those needs? Consider memorizing Hebrews 12:3.

Study Guide

For the week of February 4, 2024

(Questions and Scriptures for further study)

1. How do people who don't believe in God find meaning or purpose in their lives? Some say there is no ultimate meaning, but they continue to act as if there is some. How would this set them up for disappointment? How would make them more prone to make self-serving choices when things become hard? Why do some Christians who claim their purpose comes from God live selfishly? Where is the disconnect between beliefs/values/behaviors? The non-human world doesn't decide if it will live within God's purposes; humans are the only ones who get to make that decision for themselves. What is God's purpose for humans? Don't worry about being perfectly theologically correct...just tell us what you believe it to be.

2. Read Hebrews 12:1-3. How does this passage tie back into the last chapter? (What is the "therefore" "there for"?) In this race of faith, what are some things that hinder? How are the things that hinder different from sin? What do you think when you hear the phrase "fix your eyes on Jesus"? What does this mean in everyday life? What does it mean in terms of an "internal focus?" How does considering Jesus and what he endured help us "not grow weary or lose heart"? Or does it even help you? Be honest. If we are going to fix our eyes on Jesus, what are some ideas of Jesus that might form in our minds that are not fully Biblical? To fix our eyes on Jesus means, at the very least, that we cannot focus mainly on ourselves. How does (has) a selfish focus proven to be disappointing for you personally?

3. Read Hebrews 12:4-11. Why do you/we dislike discipline so much? (we like the disciplines we like, but not the ones we don't like. I'm talking about the ones we don't like) What kinds of discipline are related to sinful behavior? What kinds of discipline might just be related to going through difficult times not tied to some sin on our part?

4. Read 1 Peter 1:6-7, 1 Peter 4:12-13, and James 1:2-4. What are the themes from these passages that correspond to Hebrews 12? How do you feel about these passages? What does it mean that we have the choice to "suffer without hope" or "suffer with hope?"