

the
games
running your race

JULY 25



Sermon Outline

Key verse

Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.

Hebrews 12:1b

How to run with perseverance

1. Remove the hindrances

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.

Hebrews 12:1a

2. Keep your eyes on Jesus

Fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith.

Hebrews 12:2a

3. Resist discouragement

Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

Hebrews 12:3

RUN WITH PERSEVERANCE

Opening Thought

Endurance athletes must push through the pain in order to reach the finish line. In our race of faith we too must persevere in order to finish well. The author of Hebrews gives us three ways we can press on toward the goal: by removing hindrances, keeping our eyes on Jesus, and resisting discouragement.

Icebreakers

- What do you want people to say about you at your funeral?
- What is the hardest thing you have ever endured physically?

Discussion Questions

- What is one thing that stood out to you from this week's message?
- How is your core group helping you to persevere in your race of faith?
- How do the Biblical stories inspire and encourage you?
- How does the agony of the crucifixion give us hope for the obstacles we face?
- What does it mean to you to "fix your eyes on Jesus?"
- What things tend to distract people from looking to Christ?

Next Steps

- Leave the past behind – ask God to help you move beyond your failures and hurts.
- Look to Christ – make time this week to spend with the Lord.