SERMON OUTLINE

Ready, Set, Run Hebrews 12:1-2

- I. The place we run
 - A. Witnesses?
 - B. Compassed about?
- II. Preparations for the race
 - A. Lay aside every weight
 - B. Lay aside the sin
- III. Participation in the race
 - A. Run
 - B. Run with patience
 - C. Run with patience the race
 - D. Run with patience the race set before us
- IV. Perspective during the race

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, February 19, 2017

Memory Passage: Hebrews 11:6

DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

Passage: Hebrews 12:1-2

- (a) **Read Heb 11:1-22** Because verse 1 starts with "therefore", we will need to consider the previous chapter.
- (b) Take note of all of the people listed from the Old Testament and think about the details of their life that you can remember and look up the ones that you cannot remember.
- (c) How many things, noted in point B above about these people, display faith and how many display unbelief?

DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Heb 11:23-40**. Again answer questions B & C from day one about the people mentioned in the 2nd half of this passage.
- (b) What is the promise mentioned in verse 39 and 40?
- (c) How do you and your Christian friends today compare to those mentioned in chapter 11? (Remember that these OT Saints were never portrayed as perfect, but only as having walked by faith.)

DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Heb 12:1**. Now that we are back to our text, we see that the therefore refers to all of the OT Saints that have lived and died in faith.
- (b) What does "cloud of witnesses" mean? If you think that the Saints in Heaven are watching us, then do you have other Biblical text to support this view? If you think it means something else, then do you have Biblical support for that view?
- (c) What does it mean to be surrounded/compassed about by this cloud of witnesses?

DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) Read Heb 12:1. What are your first thoughts on every weight and sin?
- (b) We are told to lay aside every weight as we run, alluding to an athlete running in a race. What are some things that do slow you down in your race (i.e. your progress to sanctification and heaven)?
- (c) Is there anything that slows you on your race (spiritual walk), that would not be considered a sin? Remember that Jesus told us that if anyone loves father or mother more than him, that person was not worthy of Christ.
- (d) Do you think that the sin mentioned here is a single sin that all of us are prone to commit? Or is it a different sin for each of us, but a specific besetting sin that we will always struggle against? Remember that this verse starts by pointing us to chapter 11, and don't forget the word that is mentioned over and over in Hebrews 11.

DAY 5 - ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read I Cor 9:24-27 and Heb 12:1** Racing is the most simple of all sports and the Christian life is often compared to racing. In what way would you compare our walk to a race?
- (b) Often we're told that our life is short, but here we are told to run with patience or endurance. If life is so short, then why is patience needed?
- (c) What is meant by the course or race that is set before us? Are we all on the same course, or do we all have a separate course? Do you have a Biblical proof verse for your answer, or is it based on your own opinion?

February 19, 2017 Passage: Hebrews 12:1-2