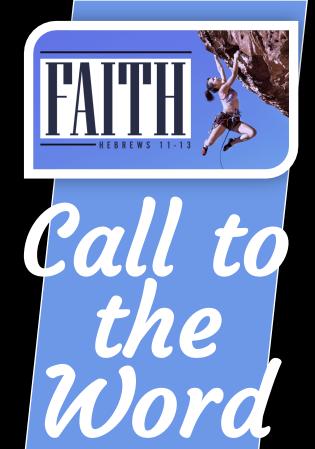
H E B R E W S 11-13



"Run, Christian, Run!" **Hebrews 12:1-4**

Call to the Word **Hebrews 12:1-4**



Therefore, we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us...

Hebrews 12:1-2

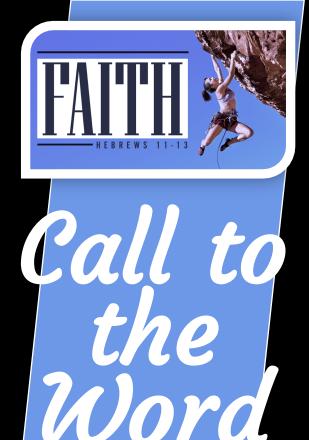




...looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of *our* faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Hebrews 12:1-2



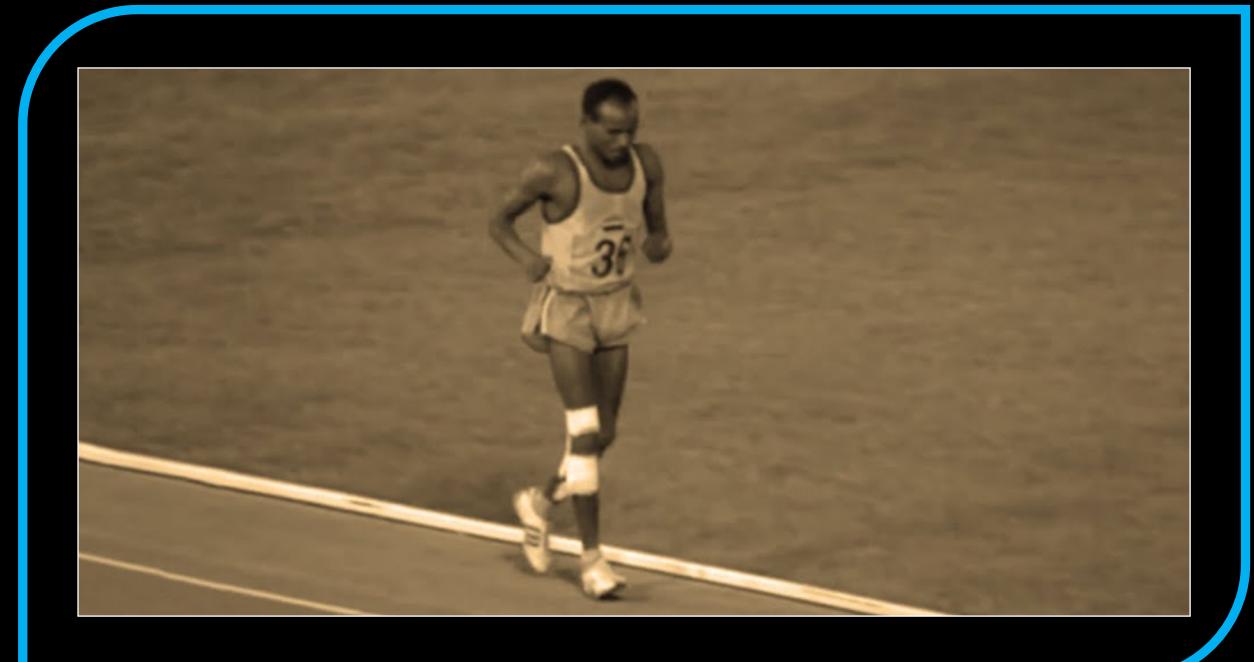


For consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls. You have not yet resisted to bloodshed, striving against sin.

Hebrews 12:3-4



"Run, Christian, Run!" introduction

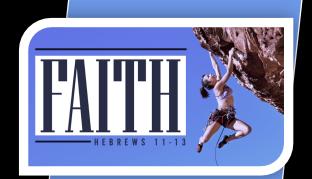


"Strip Down & Go the Distance" Heb 12:1



One of the best ways to develop an attitude of endurance and encouragement is to get to know the stories of the godly men and women of the Old Testament who ran the race and won.





And we desire for each one of you to show the same diligence... so be imitators of those who through faith [lean on God with absolute trust and confidence in Him and in His power] and by patient endurance [even when suffering] are [now] inheriting the promises.

(Heb 6:11 AMP)





Weight: the cares and concerns for this world

Sin: doubt & disbelief

Endurance: one who continues in an activity despite resistance and opposition and who is assured of a good end.





Looking: to turn the look away from everything else.

We are to look from all else to Jesus. We are to focus our vision on Jesus.

"Never cease to look on Him who ever looks on you."





What does it mean to focus on Jesus?

- It means to be filled with thoughts of His person and work
- It means to be filled with thoughts of His motivation
- It means to be filled with thoughts of His example





His Person & Work

... the author and finisher of our faith.

Author: "leader"... He knows the course... follow Him





His Person & Work

... the author and finisher of our faith.

Finisher: one who gets us over the finish line & rewards us

Php 1:6; Mat 16:27; Rev 22:12





His Motivation

...who for the joy that was set before Him

Heb 2:10

Luke 23:42





His Motivation

Despising to hold in contempt, to despise

Shame: powerful feelings of disrespect, disgrace & humiliation





"Shame was stripping away every earthly support that Jesus had: His friends gave way in shaming abandonment; His reputation gave way in shaming slander; His decency gave way in shaming nakedness; His comfort gave way in shaming torture." (Spurgeon)





His Motivation

...sat down at the right hand of the throne of God

Preeminence, power & fullness of joy.

Jesus endured short-term pain for the certainty of long-term gain

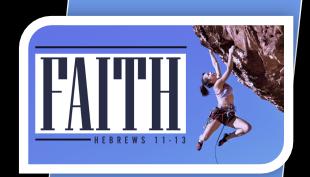


His Motivation

...sat down at the right hand of the throne of God

Preeminence, power & fullness of joy.

Jesus endured short-term pain for the certainty of long-term gain



"Think of your Savior as your God, clothed with all power and authority. Surely this should urge you to quicken your pace, and never to become weary or faint." (Spurgeon)





His Example

To 'consider' means to "Study again" – think out carefully with thoroughness and completeness...

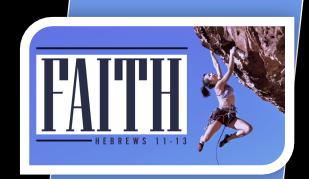
"Consider the opposition He endured" The hatred & deep-seated antagonism





"When I think of what Christ suffered, I am ashamed to call anything that I have endured suffering for his sake." (Luther)





Grow Weary: to collapse exhausted

"In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted so as to endanger your lives..." (Weymouth)





Gal 6:9 Let's not become discouraged in doing good, for in due time we will reap, if we do not become weary.





The everlasting God, the LORD, The Creator of the ends of the earth, who neither faints nor grows weary. His understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the weak, and to those who have no might He increases strength.





Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall, but those who wait on the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

Isa 40:28-31



H E B R E W S 11-13

