



Liberty LifeGroups Discussion

RESET (part 2)

January 17, 2021

This Discussion Guide is prepared to help believers apply the truths of Scripture to life. As you prepare, make sure you have read the Scripture text and listened to the Sermon. If you missed the Sermon, go to www.experienceliberty.org and select the Sermon title listed above.

“Most people focus 80% of their time and energy on things that only produce 20% of their success”

---Matt Burrell---

Have you been successful in your Bible reading plan?

What distractions have kept you from reading?

What plan do you have to prevent any distractions from keeping you from reading?

How has God spoken to you through your reading?

Do you think a lack of focus on priorities cost us our marriages, jobs and relationships?

Hebrews 12:1 *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, 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.*

1 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

- First notice in verse one how the writer of the book speaks in terms of unity. It is “we” and “us” who the text is addressing. How we can be successful in it? How do we move from a failing personal relationship to a group relationship with others who suffer the same sufferings?
- What might be the weight(s) we need to lay aside to focus our attention on God? Keep in mind we have brothers and sisters in Christ who (hopefully) want us to succeed.
- Sin (*harmartia*) means we miss the mark, or our aim is off. Sin is made by commission or omission. Explain.
- This sin which besets (ensnares) us by definition, is a sin which is skillfully surrounding us. What is the purpose of it?
- We are like Forrest Gump. Wherever we go we are running. We are to run our race with endurance. Think about sports. Runners train with weighted leg weights, baseball uses weighted bats, bodybuilders workout with weights. But when the time comes to compete, all those weights are dropped off. Do you think the weights prepare us for the endurance needed? What might be the question one should ask about the weights we carry?

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

Focus on the Main Point



Hebrews offers us the main idea of who we should be placing our focus on. *It is the all-purpose Christian advice.* That understanding places our thoughts solely on the source of our strength.

- So, what have you placed your eyes on today, this past week, that you had hoped would see you through?
- When Joshua took over the role of leader after Moses died what did the Lord tell him? **Read Joshua 1:8**
- Focus produces priorities and priorities produce success. Why does that process work?
- How important is our Bible study? Have you been expanding your spiritual knowledge through your studies? How about as a married couple? What has God taught you this past week?
- How does your idea of success transform as you read your Bible?

Jesus is our only possible model for self-denial.

- How do we go from self-serving to selfless service?
- Is it an issue when parents allow their children to focus more on sports/work than church/Christ? How many parents are looking for a child who is a sports leader rather than a true disciple of Christ?

We have to accept a race of endurance

Running well involves at least three forms of preparation. First, we need to “unload the baggage,” getting rid of things in our lives that distract us from the business of living for Christ. Second, we must “shed the sin” which blocks our fellowship with Christ and disqualifies us from the race. Third, we must “stay at it,” running with a commitment to hang in there when it gets tough and finish the race.

- As a Christian what is your expectations for the race we run?
- Two words are necessary for a Christian to run the race...perseverance and endurance. Explain how these work together for our success.

Read the following passage: Hebrews 11

35. Others were tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. 36 Still others had trial of mockings and scourgings, yes, and of chains and imprisonment. 37 They were stoned, they were sawn in two, were tempted, were slain with the sword. They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented— 38 of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, in dens and caves of the earth.

Think about the lives of these Old Testament faithful believers and the way they were focused on Christ, especially verse 38.

- How does our commitment look like compared to their commitment?

Jesus is writing your story

Jesus is both the author and finisher of our faith. He is writing your story even today. If you had to share your story so far, what would be written about you?

Our challenge is to refocus our attention on Jesus. Progressive steps have to be made in order to ensure our faithfulness, obedience, and study. Are you willing to make those steps?