

Hebrews 12:1-2 ¹Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with **endurance** the race that is set before us, ²looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

Hebrews 11: 39-40 ³⁹And all these, though commended through their faith, did not receive what was promised, ⁴⁰since God had provided something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

Hebrews 10: 35-37 ³⁵Therefore do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward. ³⁶For you have need of **endurance**, so that when you have done the will of God you may receive what is promised. ³⁷For, "Yet a little while, and the coming one will come and will not delay."

A. Initial questions:

1. In your thinking, what is "endurance"?
2. In general do you think that people in our generation have more or less "endurance" than previous ones? Why do you think that is true?
3. On a scale of 1 to 10 with 10 being Jesus and one being a continual quitter where would you rank yourself in terms of endurance?
4. When is it okay to quit?

B. Central answers:

Hebrews 12:1–2 is one sentence in the Greek text comprised of a main clause and three subordinate clauses, each introduced by participles.

Therefore, let us run with endurance (lit. "remain under") the race set before us:

- having so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us
- laying aside every weight and the sin that entangles us
- looking unto Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith

C. Final thoughts:

- Donovan's Rule # 5: "You Can Always Quit, just don't quit too soon."
- "Stick around for the miracle."
- "The easier thing to do is always the easier choice." –JCD