



SERMON NOTES

May 31, 2015

Scripture: Hebrews 12:1-3 (NAS)

Topic: "The Christian Life Is A Marathon"

Rev. Bruce Gardner

- 1 Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,
- 2 fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.
- 3 For consider Him who has endured such hostility by sinners against Himself, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

I. RUNNING WITH ENDURANCE

- A. We Need Endurance *Hebrews 10:36*
- B. Men Of Faith Evidenced Endurance *Hebrews 11*
- C. Christ Evidenced That Endurance

II. RUNNING THE MARATHON OF FAITH

- A. The End Point Is Focused On Christ
- B. It Is A Competition For Our Soul
- C. It Requires Casting Of Encumbrances
 1. Things that hold us back
 2. Things not intrinsically wrong
 3. Question to ask: How will it help me finish the race?
- D. Laying Aside Sin
 1. Sins of the mind
 2. Sinful actions
 2. Confess to God, to men and plead God's protection

E. Endurance Is Required

1. Count the cost *Luke 14:28-30*
2. Examples for encouragement
 - a. Men and women of faith
 - b. Christ's example—the Alpha and Omega of faith
John 5:19; John 8:38; Luke 23:46; Philippians 1:6
3. The joy set before us *Hebrews 2:10*

APPLICATION:

1. Eyes on Jesus takes our eyes off self.
2. Trusting Him for all He accomplished for us.
3. Looking to Christ when we are mistreated for our faith.
4. Keeping our eyes on the joy of glory *Romans 8:18*
5. Eyes on Jesus overcomes our weariness. *Matthew 11:28, 30*