

# GREATER THAN . . . A FAITH THAT PERSEVERES

Last Sunday, we made the declaration that our circumstances do not dictate our faith. Today, we will discover how we can effectively run the race of faith.

The overall message of Hebrews is this: *Whatever you are considering as the focus of your life, Christ is better.*

## Hebrews 12:1-4

Look back (v.1a)

- These witnesses demonstrate the possibilities of faith regardless of circumstances.

Look around you (v.1b)

- Lay aside every weight
  - *anything that gets in the way*
  - *every encumbrance, burden, or hindrance*
- Lay aside sin
  - *How?*
    - recognize and resist (1 Cor. 10:13)
    - Pray for deliverance (1 Cor. 15:57)

Look ahead (v.2-4)

- Consider who Jesus is
  - He is the perfect example of the faith we are to express.
- Consider what Jesus did
  - We are to have the same perspective
  - Suffering is the training ground for Christian maturity (Romans 5:3-5)
- Consider where Jesus is
  - That joy and reward can be ours also!

### Application Questions

1. Who is a “hero of faith” in your life whose example encourages you to run your own race of faith?
2. What are areas of weight or specific sins in your life that are impeding your spiritual progress?
3. In what ways are you growing weary? How can Jesus’ example give you strength as you journey towards Heaven?