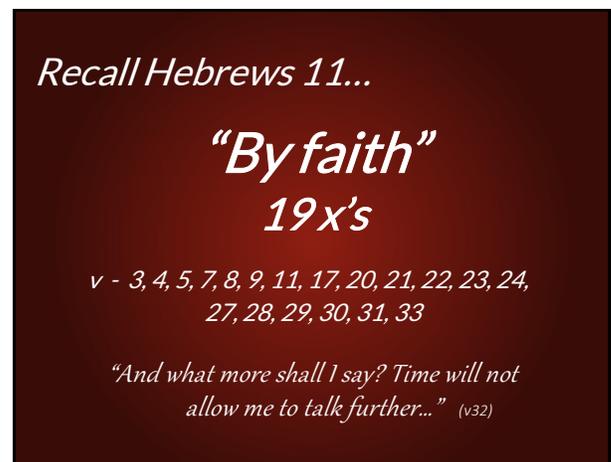
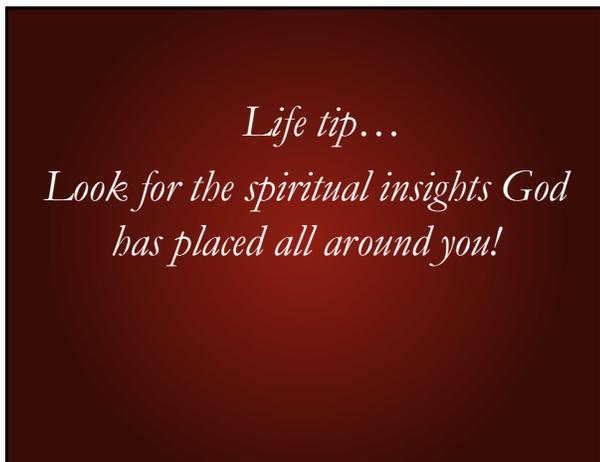


Hebrews 12:1-4

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with endurance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith.

It was for the joy set before Him that He endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. For, keep Him at the center of your thoughts - He who endured such opposition from sinners - so that you will not grow weary and lose heart..."



- ✓ Conquered kingdoms
- ✓ Acts of righteousness
- ✓ Obtained promises
- ✓ Shut lions' mouths
- ✓ Quenched fire
- ✓ Escaped sword
- ✓ Weakness → strength
- ✓ Mighty in war
- ✓ Armies to flight
- ✓ Dead back to life
- ✓ Tortured
- ✓ Imprisoned
- ✓ Mocked
- ✓ Scourged
- ✓ Chains
- ✓ Imprisoned
- ✓ Stoned
- ✓ Sawn in two
- ✓ Tempted
- ✓ Destitute

But also...

*"Gained approval yet...
They did NOT receive what was promised!"*

"Because.....

*God had provided something better
for us, that apart from us they
should not be made perfect..."*

Hebrews 11:40

Hebrews 12:1-4

*"Therefore, since we are surrounded by
such a great cloud of witnesses..."*

"...a cloud..."

"A great number..."



Hebrews 12:1-4

*"Therefore, since we are surrounded by
such a great cloud of witnesses..."*

"...of witnesses..."

*"One who testifies in a
judicial case"*

A witness

A spectator



"...a cloud of witnesses..."

*Those who, by their example, have proven
the strength and genuineness of their faith in
Christ by standing firm amidst testing, even
to the point of a violent death!*



Hebrews 12:1-4

*"...And let us run with **endurance** the race
marked out for us..."*

*NOT... "passive"
patience, as at
doctor's office...*



*Patience that
overcomes & masters!*

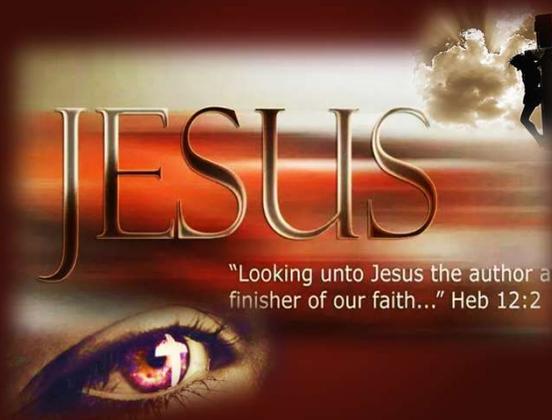


Hebrews 12:1-4
 “..And let us run with endurance the **race** marked out for us...”



“A conflict or struggle of any type!”

Hebrews 12:1-4
 “... let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles ...”

“Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith...” Heb 12:2

Verb implies a definite looking away from other things and focusing on one thing!



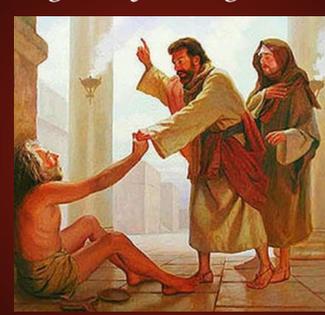
E.g. Dock Dogs!

Verb implies a definite looking away from other things and focusing on one thing!



E.g. Lot fleeing destruction!

Verb implies a definite looking away from other things and focusing on one thing!



Acts 3:1-10
E.g. Peter & John heal the lame man!

Hebrews 12:3-4

"For consider Him!

*...You have not resisted to the point of
shedding blood in your striving
against sin..."*

Hebrews 12:4-11

Endurance!

Discipline!

Romans 8:17

Philippians 3:10



Proverbs 3:11-12

*Because, we are
sons!*

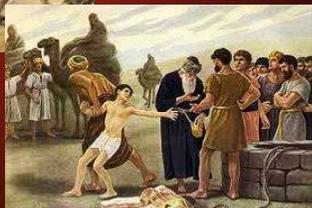
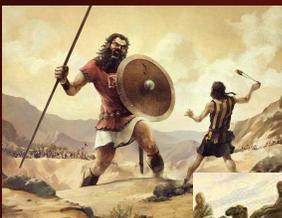
Consider the source – if...

...an "equal"...

...an "subordinate"...

...a "legitimate superior"...

...one who loves & supports...



"Come to
me, all you
who are
weary and
burdened,
and I will
give you
rest."

Matthew 11:28



Also, Philippians 4:13

Consider the source – if...

...an “equal”...

...an “subordinate”...

...a “legitimate superior”...

...one who loves & supports...

Strengthen yourself!

“Get your head in the game!”



Not Sinai



But Zion

What about you?

*Are you enduring with
patience?*