

#4 The Great Example

Hebrews 12:1-3 (ESV)

Hebrews 12:1 – 3 *Therefore, 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,² looking 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.³ Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.*

THE GREAT CLOUD OF WITNESSES

1. Testify to us and encourage us **BY THE LIVES THEY'VE LIVED.**

Hebrews 12:1 *Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses...*

HOW SHOULD WE RESPOND TO THESE WITNESSES?

1. We should **REJECT** everything that **HOLDS US** back.
 - a. We need to **REJECT SIN.**
 - b. We need to **REJECT HINDRANCES.**

2. We should **RUN** the race **SET BEFORE** us.
 - a. We need to **RUN THE COURSE** laid out for us.
 - b. We need to **RUN WITH ENDURANCE**, never giving up.

WHY SHOULD WE RESPOND THIS WAY?

1. We should **REGARD** our great example, **JESUS.**
2. We should **REFLECT** on His trials so that we **WON'T LOSE HEART.**

WHO'S WATCHING YOU?

1. Your life is **AN EXAMPLE** to all who are around you.
2. You are living out **ACTS 29**; what **GOSPEL MESSAGE** is the world reading in you?

**The Gospel is for you, but it's not just for you;
it's to be given away!**