



Brownwood Baptist Church

"Where love for God and others becomes a reality" 1 John 4:7-11

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Good morning Brownwood Baptist Community!

Charles Spurgeon once said "I have learned to kiss the wave that throws me against the Rock of Ages."

We can and should each thank God for the wave that has cast us against the Rock! God has a way of helping us to see that life without Him is futile at best.

Hebrews 12:1-2 "Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God."

I want you to take note of several things here.

- 1. Others have gone before us through difficult days and allowed their faith to shine forth from the darkness. You can too!**
- 2. We should gladly cast aside anything that weighs us down as we run this race of faith.**
- 3. We should seek the Holy Spirit to reveal to us any and all sin that has ensnared us, and then repent and run!**
- 4. We must run with endurance; our race of faith is not a sprint. We run with a marathon mind pushing past the difficult days striving for the finish line.**

5. At the end of this race is our Savior. He is the one who has inspired us to run this race and He is the one who is at the finish line cheering us on with every stride.

Here are some questions to aid in discussion this morning.

**Which of these heroes of faith resonates with you today and why?
Refer to Hebrews 11**

What extra weight has been laid aside during this time that has allowed you to run with more freedom?

What finish line are you running towards and what prize awaits you?

You can find these notes on our Facebook page.

Church, I look forward to seeing you soon. Stay strong and run this race with a great faith. God bless each of you!

**Anthony Cottrell
Pastor, Brownwood Baptist Church**