Life Connexion Group Study Notes
Persevering in Holiness
Date: 1 November 2026

Series Overview

In the series The Holiness of Believers, we are learning that holiness is a life set apart for God and increasingly shaped by the character of Jesus. It is lived in ordinary choices, relationships and responsibilities, not only in moments of worship.

This study considers how believers can continue faithfully when life is difficult. Ps Samuel taught from Hebrews 12 that the Christian life is a race requiring endurance, that the Father's loving discipline forms holiness, and that God gives His people a path to follow toward the hope of life with Him.

Introduction

Every person runs many races during life: pursuing security, success, recognition, influence, achievement or fulfilment. These goals may matter, but the things of this world do not last. Ecclesiastes describes the limits of wealth and pleasure, while Jesus asks what it would profit someone to gain the whole world and forfeit their soul (Mark 8:36).

The Christian life is more than a brief emotional experience. It is a lifelong journey of following Jesus, being transformed into His likeness and remaining faithful to the end. Christian hope rests on Jesus, who died and rose again, and on the promise that life with God extends beyond death. This hope gives meaning to endurance now.

> **We can keep running when we know the destination, follow God's path and trust the Father who guides us.**

Key Scriptures

Hebrews 12:1–3
The writer calls believers to run with endurance, laying aside what hinders them and fixing their eyes on Jesus, who endured the cross for the joy set before Him.

Hebrews 12:5–11
God's discipline is presented as the care of a loving Father. Though correction can be painful in the moment, it trains His children and produces a harvest of righteousness and peace.

Hebrews 12:12–14
Believers are urged to strengthen themselves, make straight paths, pursue peace with everyone and pursue holiness.

Mark 8:36
Jesus asks what a person gains by possessing the whole world but losing their life.

Ecclesiastes 2:10–11
Solomon reflects that wealth, achievement and pleasure cannot provide lasting gain when considered apart from God.

Persevering in Holiness

1. Life requires endurance

The race of life includes adversity. Growth often involves difficulty, repeated effort and the willingness to rise after a fall. A child learning to stand does not decide that walking is impossible after one stumble; the child tries again. In the same way, endurance means steadfastness and perseverance under pressure.

Endurance is active courage, not passive resignation. It is continuing to trust and obey God while facing hardship, rather than giving up at the first obstacle. The journey may be longer than expected, but knowing where we are going helps us keep moving forward.

> **Endurance is steady, faithful persistence when the road becomes difficult.**

2. The Father's discipline forms holiness

Hebrews describes God as a Father who lovingly trains His children. Discipline here is not simply punishment; it includes instruction, correction and the setting of boundaries that protect and guide us. A loving parent redirects a child away from danger because they care about the child's wellbeing.

God's correction is intended to shape us into people who reflect His character. Holiness means belonging to God and living differently in ways that honour Him. When Scripture exposes a wrong direction, we can receive correction as an invitation to return to the path, grow in righteousness and become more like Jesus.

Ps Samuel's illustration of a parent guiding a child back to school showed that love does not always remove every difficulty. Sometimes care means helping someone continue through a challenging season because the long-term purpose matters.

3. God's path calls for strength, peace and perseverance

Hebrews tells believers to strengthen what is weak, make straight paths and pursue peace and holiness. Temptation may offer an easier or more immediate way, but not every path that seems right leads to life. God's way calls us to keep choosing what is righteous, even when another option appears more attractive.

Jesus is our example. He endured the cross because of the joy set before Him (Hebrews 12:2). His resurrection assures Christians that suffering and death do not have the final word. God's justice and welcome are the destination of the race, giving believers hope when circumstances are unfair or painful.

This hope also shapes how we treat others. We can pursue peace and act with integrity while trusting God with the justice we cannot secure ourselves. The goal is not comfort at any cost, but a faithful life with God.

Enduring the Race with our Eyes Fixed on Jesus

Persevering in holiness means continuing the race with our eyes fixed on Jesus, especially when the way is difficult or longer than expected. We trust God through adversity, rise again when we stumble and keep taking the next faithful step. Because the Father loves us, we receive the correction of Scripture as guidance that protects us from harm and trains us in righteousness.

We choose God's path rather than tempting shortcuts, strengthening what is weak and pursuing peace with others and holiness before God.

Jesus endured the cross for the joy set before Him, and His resurrection assures us that suffering and death do not have the final word.

The hope of life with God gives lasting purpose to our perseverance.

Persevering in Holiness in Everyday Life

Perseverance is practised in the ordinary moments when we choose to keep trusting and obeying God. When progress feels slow or we stumble, we can turn our eyes back to Jesus and take the next faithful step. Scripture helps us recognise what may be hindering us, receive God's loving correction and continue along His path.

Personal perseverance

Make time to read Scripture and pray, asking God to guide your choices. When you recognise that you have taken a wrong step, respond honestly and return to Him rather than giving up. When an easier option conflicts with God's ways, choose what is faithful, even if it takes longer.

In relationships

Pursue peace and act with integrity, including when others treat you unfairly. You can entrust justice to God while continuing to respond in a way that honours Him. Hebrews also calls us to strengthen those who are weary, so offer encouragement or practical support to someone facing a difficult season.

As a group

Encourage one another to keep following Jesus. Listen without judgement, pray together and help each other identify a wise next step. We do not have to run the race alone.

Reflection Questions

1. What “races” or goals currently take up most of your attention? How can you keep them in perspective alongside your relationship with God?
2. What does endurance look like in a difficult season you are facing now? What might help you take the next faithful step?
3. How does Jesus’ endurance of the cross and resurrection give you hope when life feels unfair or painful?
4. What practical encouragement could our Life Connexion group offer one another as we seek to persevere in faith?
5. Read Hebrews 12:1–14 during the week. When you face a challenge or feel tempted to take an easier but unfaithful path, pause and ask: “What is the next step of obedience God is showing me?” Take that step, and ask a trusted Christian to pray with you if you need support.

Scripture Memory Challenge

“Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.”

- Hebrews 12:1