

Glorybound 2018

Pre-Gathering Family Group Time

The Race - Hebrews 12:1-2

Saturday, July 14, 2018



Adult Leaders - It is suggested that you read the "Hebrews Commentary Excerpt" found in the Leader resources at gloryboundtexas.org

Intro: As we prepare for our time together at Glorybound, it would be good for us to share hopes and ways we hope to grow.

Each person should jot down and then share:

A hope I have for my time at Glorybound is _____

One part of my faith I would like to grow in is _____

Prayer: Read Together:

Lord, Heavenly Father, we thank you that we have the chance to go to Glorybound together with hundreds of other youth and leaders. Guard and keep us as we travel. Bless the speakers, musicians and planners who have worked hard to create a gathering where we can grow in our faith, have fun and make new friends. Be with us now, preparing our hearts and minds for what you would have us learn before we go to Glorybound 2018.

Theme Verses for Glorybound

Read these verses together

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, 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.

Hebrews 12:1-2 (ESV)

Have someone read:

What identifies you today? Is it the labels on your clothes, the style or color of your hair, the car you drive, the sport you are in, being a band member, the house you live in, or the school or church you attend? Our society has many ways to put identifying markings on us. Some we put on ourselves.

Look around your group and see if you can find some. While these different labels are not necessarily a bad thing when they are used to identify a product or place, they can be harmful when we allow them to identify us.

At our baptism, God placed His label on us and it says "My Child". This label is not a visible one, but it can be seen in the way we live. We have been marked by "*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.*" As a child of God, we are called to "*run with endurance the race that is set before us*" as we follow Jesus as His disciples. This is more than merely believing in Jesus, it is following His ways. Following Christ only happens through the power of the Holy Spirit that God has promised us. The Holy Spirit gives us the power to stand firm and run the race God has placed on us for all those around us to see, identifying us as belonging to Him.

Discuss (See the "Hebrews Commentary Excerpt" for help with these questions)

What do you think the writer of the Hebrews means by *the race that is set before us*? What "race" is he talking about?

Who do you think are the *great cloud of witnesses*?

Design a Race Jersey

Thinking about who God has made you to be, with all the important things that identify you, design a race jersey using words, symbols and identifying marks. Be ready to share your design with the rest of your group.



Pray Together

Thank you Jesus that you are in the race with me. You completed it before me and will get me to the finish line. Please continue perfecting me now as well, so that I run the race faithfully, sharing the joy I have been given with others. Thanks also for the cloud of witnesses in the past and around me right now who encourage and support me. All this I pray in the name of Jesus who has taught us to pray: "Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name...etc.