

Radiant!

Who You Are...
Because of Who He Is.

~Lesson Twelve
Hebrews Chapter Twelve



Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly

...SMALL GROUP FELLOWSHIP...

📖 **God's Word is our standard.** We'll use the Bible - not personal opinion, popular teachers, or church tradition - as our guide for everything. We are using the English Standard Version (ESV) Bible for this study.

♥ **We come from varying faith backgrounds**, so please be thoughtful of denominational and religious differences.

🚫 **Avoid commentaries or study notes in your Bible.** Trust God, pray, ask for wisdom then read and answer on your own.

🙋 **We're all learning.** Be gracious and patient with yourself and with others. No one has it all figured out.

✓ **This isn't a personal opinion study. This is a Bible study.** So, there are going to be "right" and "wrong" answers. Try your best and have a humble and teachable spirit.

🗣️ **You don't have to share**, but if you did the reading and the study this week, why not chime in? We all benefit from one another's thoughts and questions. I bet you have something great to share! 😊

👂 **Didn't finish the study this week?** That's ok. Life gets busy. You're here! Yay you! This will be a good week for you to listen and perhaps jot down answers as others share.

⌚ **Be considerate of your "slice of the pie"** Share your thoughts, but allow time for others to do the same.

🕒 **Watch the time.** We'll start the teaching time at 7:40pm (evening) or 10:40am (morning) group.

...AS WE GATHER...

1. What does it mean to you to have faith? (pg 11/Q2)
2. Share your responses to questions 10 & 11 on page 12
3. Share your responses to question 3 on page 17.
4. What's the craziest thing you've done for God out of obedience? (pg 22/Q6)
5. What point do you think the author is making by reminding us of the kind of home dwelled in and what he was "looking forward" to and how will that impact your life today? (pg 26/Q 4)
6. Share your responses to question 4 on page 27-28
7. Share your responses to questions 4 & 5 on page 30
8. Share an insight you gained from your study through chapter 11.
9. Share your Create & Share
10. Recite Hebrews 11:1 & 6 together.





...JOIN JENNIFER “LIVE OR LATER” ...

...LIVE 7:00AM...

FACEBOOK OR ZOOM

www.Facebook.com/LMCCWomen

Click “Like”

Go to Facebook at 7am weekdays to join Jennifer Live!

www.Zoom.us/j/809987915

Use the link above or get the Zoom app on your phone and join with the number [809987915](https://zoom.us/j/809987915) weekdays at 7am.

LATER ... [YouTube.com/c/JenniferRichmond](https://www.YouTube.com/c/JenniferRichmond) or the [Dwelling Richly](https://www.DwellingRichly.com) podcast.

...MARK YOUR CALENDARS -- OUR NEXT STUDY MEETS...

MONDAY, APRIL 9 6:30PM

OR

TUESDAY, APRIL 10, 9:30AM

Hebrews - Radiant Bible Study Notes

You can hear this message at: <http://www.dwellingrichly.podbean.com>

Hebrews - Radiant Bible Study Notes

~ Lesson Twelve Overview ~

Lesson Twelve – Hebrews Chapter 12



Memorize Hebrews 12:1-2

- Day 1 – Read & Write
- Day 2 – 12:1-2
- Day 3 – 12:3-4
- Day 4 – 12:5-11
- Day 5 – 12:12-17 part 1
- Day 6 – 12:12-17 part 2
- Day 7 – 12:18-24
- Day 8 – 12:25-29
- Day 9 – Create & Share

Remember, you can be a part of our weekday Bible study community!

Join us “Live or Later”

Live → [Facebook.com/lmccwomen](https://www.facebook.com/lmccwomen) at 7am

Later → [YouTube.com/c/JenniferGRichmond](https://www.youtube.com/c/JenniferGRichmond) or the Dwelling Richly podcast



...Lesson Twelve -Day One...

...WRITE & MEMORIZE THE WORD...

HEBREWS 12:1-2



...READ AND WRITE HEBREWS 12

As you read in the introduction, we are reading and writing the entire book of Hebrews over the course of this study. At the end of this lesson packet, I have provided several blank pages for you to “WRITE THE WORD.” Use these or any pages – perhaps a special journal? – to write each chapter of Hebrews. At the end of this study, you’ll have written the entire book! What a treasure!

While you study Hebrews, write any notes, thoughts, questions, even drawings, that will help you engage and understand the Scripture. Before you read and write, pray that God would open the eyes of your heart to see clearly the wonders in His word (Psalm 119:18) and that He would give you wisdom (James 1:5) to grasp and apply what you are reading.

- 1) **READ HEBREWS CHAPTER 12** - If you haven’t read chapters 1-11 yet, be sure to read them as well – As you read, take note of the authors many words of exhortation – more than any other chapter. Three exhortations begin with the signal words “let us” – the rest are imperatives (“consider,” “lift,” “see to it,” etc.). There are over 30 packed in this powerful chapter.
- 2) **WRITE HEBREWS CHAPTER 12** Take time to get caught up on any previous chapters you need to write.
- 3) **WRITE & MEMORIZE** Hebrews 12:1-2 – Review and meditate on this these verses daily. I’ve provided space at the opening of each lesson for this.

...CREATE & SHARE THINK AHEAD...

Think ahead to our Create & Share (Day 9) which will be to re-read and meditate on this chapter. You’ll be sharing some thoughts about your experience through chapter 12 with a friend from your group. Check out Day 9 and be thinking ahead as you complete each day in this lesson.

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

...Lesson Twelve - Day Two...

...WRITE & MEMORIZE THE WORD...

HEBREWS 12:1-2

...PRAY THEN READ THE WORD...

Pray for wisdom and understanding then read our passage for today: [Hebrews 12:1-2](#)

...DWELL IN THE WORD...

1. The opening word of Hebrews chapter 12, _____, is a hint that we need to read this passage in light of what? _____.

What was the focus of chapter 11?

2. What did this "cloud of witnesses" witness? (Think big picture here, not little details of their lives.)

As a result, the author exhorts us to...Write the "let us" exhortations of 12:1 here. Underline the word also.

3. By saying "also" the author is pointing back to the witnesses. What then is the author implying about what those witnesses had done?

4. What has the author pointed out repeatedly as "sin" in his message? Consider [Hebrews 3:12-13, 19](#). What is the sin he is warning against?

5. Considering this meaning of "clings so closely," what contrast is the author making between the impact that the of the "cloud of witnesses" should have verses impact of "the sin?"

It's Γρεεκ το Με

The Greek word [ἁμαρτία](#) (*hamartia*) translated simply "sin" (ESV) is better translated "the sin." This passage is not about us being sinless or having moral perfection but of laying aside anything that would be baggage from our past keeping us from "considering Him" and being faithful to Him.

It's Γρεεκ το Με

UNIQUE WORD ALERT!

The phrase describing sin in 12:1 translated "clings so closely" (ESV) is from the Greek word: [εὐπερίστατος](#) (*euperistatos*). It literally means to "stand all around," and its sense is something that seriously hinders someone. It "encircles" you keeping you from advancing.

6. Rather than being hindered by unbelief, what does the author want to see us doing? Paul uses the same metaphor in [1 Corinthians 9:24-27](#) and [2 Timothy 4:7](#).

7. What's the author's solution to the problem of sin clinging so closely?

8. How does the author describe Jesus?

The _____ and _____ of our faith

[Hebrews 2:10 and 12:2](#)

Jesus is not only the originator (founder) of our faith, but he's the one that brings our faith to what end?

How does Jesus do that? Read also [James 1:2-4, 12](#)

9. What emotion motivated what action in 12:2? _____ → _____

Consider this, you can have joy that leads to endurance and endurance that results in joy!

10. What was Jesus willing – even joyful – to endure?

How does His example compare to yours? Are you joyful? Enduring? Giving no thought to any shame associated with believing in Jesus?

11. What exactly was the "joy set before Him?" (Be sure to note this idea in your Bible at [1:3](#) and [8:1](#) also.)

... REFLECT ON THE WORD ...

Does it feel a little out of reach to see the example of Jesus and think, "Well, He did it, so can I?" It does to me, and that's the understatement of all time! There is no way that I could ever by my efforts even come close to enduring what Jesus did let alone living the life that He lived. And yet, right here the author of Hebrews says that I should be "looking to Jesus." I'm done before I start if I take that to mean that I have to do what Jesus did in order to earn heaven. Thankfully, that is not what this message or any message in the Bible means. See, Jesus is the founder of my faith – he started it. Jesus is also the perfecter of my faith – He finished it – or better, he enables me to make it to the end. Sigh. *That* is something I can get excited about and not be overwhelmed by. That message brings me great hope and joy, actually! What a relief!

The message is that Jesus was the focal point of every witness – that great cloud of them – that have gone before me.

Rather than looking around at what I'm going through – my sin, my shame, my trials, my shortcomings...

Rather than looking at the promises that don't seem to be fulfilled – I look to Jesus.

I look up, turn away from and above all that is swirling around me and I...

see Him.

consider Him.

look to Him.

hope in Him.

...Lesson Twelve - Day Three...

...WRITE & MEMORIZE THE WORD...

HEBREWS 12:1-2

...PRAY THEN READ THE WORD...

Pray for wisdom and understanding then read our passage for today: [Hebrews 12:3-4](#)

...DWELL IN THE WORD...

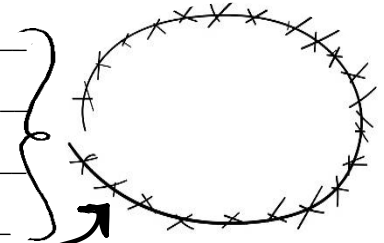
1. Review [Hebrews 2:9](#); [2:18-3:1](#); [12:2](#); [12:3](#). What has been the author's continual exhortation?

2:9 _____

2:18-3:1 _____

12:2 _____

12:3 _____



2. Go back through each of these passages and note the context. Under what circumstances did Jesus provide the example for us to see Him, consider Him, and fix our eyes and thoughts on Him?

Write your answer in the circle.

3. What is the hope of considering Jesus?

4. What does all this say to you about the expectations of the Christian life?

5. This is not a new idea! Read and summarize the following:

	Who said it?	What did they say?
John 15:20		

It's Γρεκ το Με

UNIQUE WORD ALERT!

The word translated "consider" in 12:3 is the Greek word [ἀναλογίσασθε](#) (*analogisasthe*). It has the sense of considering based on all the evidence. The author wants us to add up the evidence and see how it points to Jesus.

Acts 14:22		
1 Peter 4:12		
James 1:2-4		
Romans 5:1-5		

6. How would considering Jesus keep you from growing weary, fainthearted, or giving up? How would this help you encourage a friend?

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7. What sin is the author warning them/us against in 12:4? (Hint: It's the same sin he's been warning against in this entire message. You answered this on Day 2/Q 4.)

|

8. What is the opposite of resisting and its result? Remember the imagery he used in the first warning way back in [2:1-3](#).

|

9. Examples of those who have "resisted to the point of shedding blood" have come before them, right? Who can you list as one of those examples and what was their end like in this life? (Hint: [12:1](#) and [11:35-38](#))

|

...REFLECT ON THE WORD...

When I first started to learn to drive I remember my dad's advice: "Look past the hood ornament." Now, with umpteen years of driving under my belt I can laugh at that advice, but at the time I was so annoyed. "I knooooow, daaaaaad." I think I said. But the truth was that while I was beginning to drive, I saw very little of what was going on around me and my car – or as my grandmas used to say, "That 2000-pound death trap on wheels." She took the bus and never learned to drive, but I digress.

The thing is, when we're immature, we see very little around us. We see the instruments and gauges and have a sense of things but it's all so hard to consider anything else other than what's right in front of us. Our walk with the Lord is a lot like that, and the author is saying, "Look past the hood ornament! See the great cloud of witnesses?" and then he goes even further to the biggest, best, greatest thing to see – or rather person – Jesus! "Consider Jesus!" he says. You're weary? You're overwhelmed? Consider what he's done, what he endured, and for whom...us! Look past the hood and see Him – the author and perfecter of our faith and the one to whom all will ultimately consider when every knee will bow and every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord. So, look to Him now. Consider Him now. Endure like He did now.

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...Lesson Twelve - Day Four...

...WRITE & MEMORIZE THE WORD...

HEBREWS 12:1-2

...PRAY THEN READ THE WORD...

Pray for wisdom and understanding then read our passage for today: [Hebrews 12:5-11](#)

...DWELL IN THE WORD...

Let's dive right in and pick up from where we left in Day 3...

10. What are the two responses to discipline that the author warns against in 12:5? This is a quote from [Proverbs 3:11-12](#).

1) _____ 2) _____

Then, what would be an appropriate, balanced, humble response?

11. Read [2 Timothy 3:16](#). What is God's word useful for?

12. If you didn't have a good father growing up, it may be difficult to see the positive correlation the author is making between a good earthly father and the greatest Father – God. But, what correlation is the author trying to make for them/us in this passage?

13. Jesus did the same. Read [Luke 11:1-13](#). What point is Jesus making?

It's Γρεκ το Με

We get our word pedagogy (to instruct by training) from the word translated "discipline" in 12:7. It is the Greek word [παιδείαν](#) ([paideian](#)). It means instruction that trains someone for righteousness. Paul used the same word when he wrote to encourage Timothy. (2 Tim. 3:16)

14. Is the discipline we go through necessarily a result of sin? Share your thoughts:

15. Read one or both of the following and comment on the trial going on in their life. Consider answering questions like: Who caused it? Who allowed it? What was the person's response? What was God's/Jesus' response? What was the point of the "suffering?" [Job 1:8, 20-22, 10](#), [Genesis 50:1-21](#), or [John 9:1-5, 25-31](#)

16. What do the sons of God share in? His _____ (12:10)

This is the only occurrence in the New Testament of this word "[ἁγιότητος](#)" (hagiotētos) for God's holiness and the only time we are said to share in God's holiness. That should make your ears perk up!

17. In order for us to share in His holiness, what must be true of us?

[2 Corinthians 1:5](#), [Philippians 3:10](#), [2 Timothy 2:3](#), [1 Peter 4:13](#)

18. What is the result of accepting God's discipline and specifically who gets this? (12:11)

...REFLECT ON THE WORD...

Nobel Peace Prize winner Elie Wiesel said that the opposite of love isn't hate, but apathy – just not caring. Do you see that truth in this passage? God's love is so real and true for His children that He loves in a way that keeps our attention even if it is through hardship. What if God saw us drifting and just didn't care? What kind of God would that be? Definitely not a loving one! Remember that discipline and punishment are not the same. When we feel the pain of discipline, instead of responding with "Why me?" what if we responded with relief? What if we thought, "Thank you, God for loving me! You are refining me through this! Help me grow in my faith and love for you!" Would it be possible for us to grow and mature without pain and suffering? I don't think so. Reflect on any season of growth in your life and you'll see it also was a season of at least some difficulty and probably pain. C. S. Lewis said it so well, "God whispers to us in our pleasure, speaks in our conscience, but shouts in our pains: it is His megaphone to rouse a deaf world." Are we hearing God? Are we attentive to His work in our life? The truth of the discipline in our life is not that we should behave so that we can avoid it, it's that we should submit so we can bring glory to God in it. Joseph, after being betrayed, sold, enslaved, and rejected by his own family summed up the ultimately redeeming trial with these words, "What you (his family) meant for evil (and boy-howdy did they ever!), God meant for good." Joseph God's got your good in mind. Do you trust that?



...Lesson Twelve - Day Five...

...WRITE & MEMORIZE THE WORD...

HEBREWS 12:1-2

...PRAY THEN READ THE WORD...

Pray for wisdom and understanding then read our passage for today: [Hebrews 12:12-17 part 1](#)

...DWELL IN THE WORD...

1. Review Hebrews 12:1-2 Think about the race metaphor and add to that the imagery in 12:12-13. Draw (*I know you loooooove drawing people*) a self-portrait of you as a faithful racer...what will your hands, knees, and feet be doing?
2. Context reminder! Under what circumstances is the author exhorting them/us to be strong? (Hint: [Hebrews 12:10-11](#))

3. What three specific actions does the author encourage us to do for ourselves in 12:13-14?

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____

4. Read [Psalm 28](#) – What is the connection between lifted hands and strength?

When you feel weak, what is a biblical response?

It's Γρεκ το Με

UNIQUE WORD ALERT!

The word translated “lift” in 12:12 is the Greek word [ἀνορθώσατε](#) (anorthōsate). We get our word “orthopedic” from this root. It means to “raise up/straighten by restoring strength.” The ESV captures the meaning well.

5. Read [Isaiah 40:28-31](#). While we may – and likely will – grow weary, God does not. What is God ready to give? And to whom?

6. Read [Proverbs 4:26-27](#). This is the teaching the author is reminding us of. (Remember, he quotes from the Septuagint version, so ours - from the Masoretic version - is a little different.)

What is the point of making straight paths?

[a](#)

Read and meditate on [Psalm 25](#) for encouragement for how to engage with God when you are troubled.

7. How can we put into practice the exhortation of 12:13?

[Psalm 1:1-2](#)

[Psalm 119:35, 105](#)

[2 Timothy 3:12-16](#)

8. Compare the exhortations of 12:12-13 with 12:14-15 What shift in focus do you notice?

Consider Jesus' admonition in [Luke 6:42](#). What do we do first? So that we can then do what?

...REFLECT ON THE WORD...

I don't think it's possible to read – really read – the Bible and miss the idea that this life as a true believer is not easy. It's not easy as it is in life in general, but, add to that the higher calling of life in Christ and you would have to be some kind of special to miss the reality that when you choose this life, you choose to enter a race that will necessarily be difficult. Think of just a few of the words of Jesus himself talking to his disciples and by extension, us: trial, tribulation, temptation, persecution, poor in spirit, mourning, being reviled, mocked, scorned...shall I go on?

With that being said, I'd like to suggest that if you are *not* experiencing at least moments of one of the above, you're doing it wrong. If you're complaining, or shocked, or troubled, or doubting all this (the Christian life), you've missed the big picture. If you're weary, feeling the pain and pinch and discomfort of discipline you should have a big fat smile of thankfulness and satisfaction on your face. God is at work in you. Better that He was than He wasn't, right? So, what now? Mope? Be discouraged? Give up? Walk away? No! The author of Hebrews is saying, lift those hands up! Praise Him! Straighten those knees and get to work on that path – not only for your own feet but for the feet of those who are coming along with you! Fix your eyes on the holiness of God, and let's put our backs into this and stop acting like the tough times are the exception – they're the rule, my friend!

We should...

raise up holy hands

To praise the Holy One

Who was and is and is to come!

Set our heart and mind on Him who will sustain us and look around to encourage and clear the path for our brothers and sisters so we can be in this together.

...Lesson Twelve - Day Six...

...WRITE & MEMORIZE THE WORD...

HEBREWS 12:1-2

...PRAY THEN READ THE WORD...

Pray for wisdom and understanding then read our passage for today: [Hebrews 12:12-17 part 2](#)

...DWELL IN THE WORD...

1. Review your notes and responses to Hebrews 12:12-13 from Day 4. Summarize that concept in ten words or less:

|

2. The first three exhortations were personal and internal...now we look around and see how we can relate with one another. What five exhortations does the author give in [12:14-16](#)? Look these verses up in the Amplified Bible or several versions to compare the wording.

1) Strive for _____ and...

2) (strive for) _____

What happens without holiness? _____

3) See to it that _____

4) (See to it that) no _____

What happens because of bitterness? _____

5) (See to it that) no one is _____ like Esau

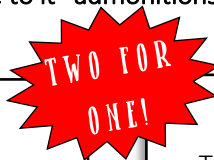
6) (See to it that no one is) _____ like Esau

3. Highlight the two "strive for" and the three "see to it" admonitions in your Bible.

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It's Γρεεκ το Με

[Διώκω](#) (dee-o'-ko) is the Greek root translated "strive" in 12:14. It means to *aggressively* chase, like a *hunter* pursuing a catch or pursuing a prize. It almost always refers to the negative sense of someone persecuting someone else. So, the author is saying, in the same way you are feeling persecuted, go for peace and holiness with that kind of earnestness! Pursue peace in spite of persecution.



It's Γρεεκ το Με

The word translated "see to it" in 12:15 is the Greek word [ἐπισκοποῦντες](#) (epi-scope-oun-tes) from the prefix "epi" (on/about) and the root "skopeo" from which we get our word "scope." So, it literally means to scope out and over so it means "oversight" or to look at a situation with real (caring) interest. The prefix (*epi*) implies "looking with *appropriate* concern," a looking *on* that requires action.

4. Give personal and practical explanations for peace and holiness in your life:

	<u>WHAT IT IS...</u>	<u>WHAT IT'S NOT...</u>
PEACE		
HOLINESS		

5. God's word is so clear on the impact of how we live for peace and holiness. Summarize the following:

[1 Peter 3:15](#)

[Colossians 3:17](#)

[Ephesians 4:29](#)

I don't think there is anything more disturbing to the way the world sees people who claim the name of Christ than when Christians live without peace and holiness! Not only are we to personally strive for peace and holiness, we are to see to it that others do the same! What? I thought we were supposed to keep our eyes on Jesus and let everyone else just do the same? I thought we weren't supposed to "judge" others? Is that what the Bible teaches?

6. If we are actually, truly, really, honestly, striving to live lives of peace and personal holiness, how will that impact our ability to live out Hebrews 12:15-16?

In other words, how can we live out Hebrews 12:15-16 if we AREN'T doing 12:14-15 first? Right? Right!

7. So, what about Esau? Read [Genesis 25:29-34](#). (Pay close attention to the wrap-up at the end of verse 34.)

If we don't live out

Esau is a reminder to me today to see Jesus, consider Jesus, fix my eyes on Jesus. There are plenty of opportunities each day for me to squander the great reward I have by crossing the line like Esau did. In fact, the word translated "unholy" (βέβηλος/be-bē-los) in referring to Esau is better translated "profane" or we might say, "secular." It literally means "unauthorized crossing of a threshold." Esau tossed out his eternal and spiritual reward for the immediate gratification of the now – in his case a hot meal. He then lost access to God. He was unfit to approach God because of his blatant lack of faith. The author keeps circling back to this exhortation for us to get our spiritual priorities in order and to come alongside one another and care that others do the same. While we're fixing our eyes on Jesus we cannot neglect to notice one another. We must lift our own drooping hands and we must notice when others are drooping too. We can't, as my grandma used to say, be so "heavenly minded that we're no earthly good." This isn't just an individual race, it's a team sport. We absolutely must take care of one another. There's no getting around the point in this passage. There's none of this "my faith is personal and private" business – that's an Esau mindset! See how that turned out for him? No, our faith is personal in that we are accountable to God to personally receive and believe faithfully in Jesus, but it is community in that we have to pay attention and strive for peace with everyone, don't allow anyone to fail to obtain God's grace, pluck out any roots of bitterness, and care enough to reach out to one another and into one another's lives!

...Lesson Twelve - Day Seven...

...WRITE & MEMORIZE THE WORD...

HEBREWS 12:1-2

...PRAY THEN READ THE WORD...

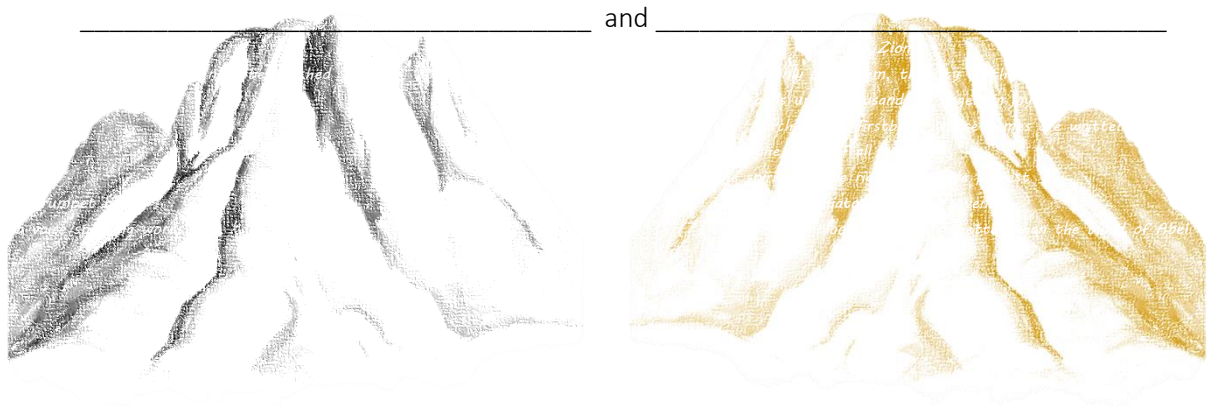
Pray for wisdom and understanding then read our passage for today:

[Hebrews 12:18-24](#) and [Exodus 19:1-25; 20:18-21](#)

Consider taking two days to cover this lesson's material.

...DWELL IN THE WORD...

1. What contrast is the author making in Hebrews 12:18-24? Write and draw key words, phrases, emotions, concepts from this chapter as well as other references to illustrate the contrast between these two mountains.



SUM UP EACH MOUNTAIN EXPERIENCE IN ONE WORD:

2. What do you think is on the heart of the author in getting them/us to see this stark contrast?

3. What have we come to?

Mt. Zion - described in two other ways:

→ _____

→ _____

And also (11:24) _____

4. Who have we come to?



What are they doing? _____



What are they like? _____



What is His role? _____



What is His role? _____

5. DRAW NEAR. DRAW NEAR. DRAW NEAR...all through his message the author has encouraged, exhorted, implored them/us to draw near...Consider again the audience of his message and any notions they might have had about what it looked and felt like to draw near to God through the Law...Describe that here:

And **now**, how does drawing near look and feel? Who can draw near? When can we draw near?

[Hebrews 4:16](#)

[Hebrews 7:19](#)

[Hebrews 7:25](#)

[Hebrews 10:1](#)

[Hebrews 10:22](#)

[Hebrews 11:6](#)

...REFLECT ON THE WORD...

Growing up I went to church camp. The youth group would pile into the big church bus and wind its way up into the mountains for a weeklong or weekend getaway – a fun mix of teaching, worship, campfire songs, and shenanigans. I can't think of any time I didn't experience a personal revival up there. There's something transformational that happens up the mountain. It's no wonder that God first met with His people at a mountain. From Noah's landing on Ararat to Abraham's faithfulness at Mt. Moriah and to Moses' at Sinai we see how God fulfills, tests, and reveals – but each are reminders of being close to God. Mountains have been where people experience God, and they still are. Zion will be our ultimate Mountaintop experience...but here's the thing...we don't have to wait to go there! We have Zion now! We "have come to Mount Zion" the Word tells us. When we are in Christ we have angels partying, the cloud of witnesses cheering, and Jesus going before us as our amazing mediator! The reality is we have the joy of that experience right now! Wow! No fear. No trembling. No worries...joy unspeakable and yet, joy we can't help but speak!

...Lesson Twelve - Day Eight...

...WRITE & MEMORIZE THE WORD...

HEBREWS 12:1-2

...PRAY THEN READ THE WORD...

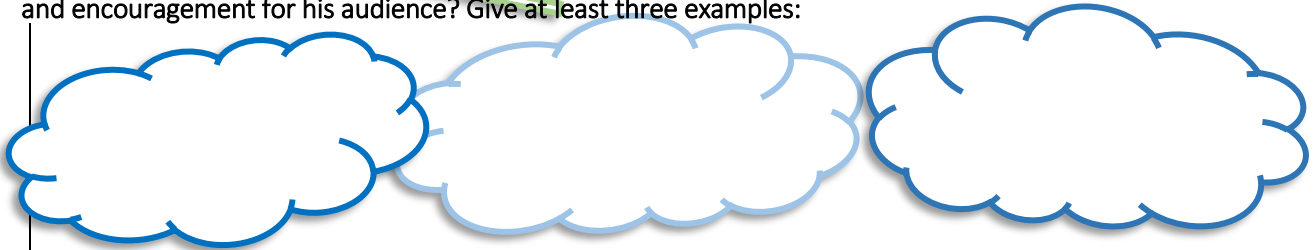
Read [Hebrews 12:25-29](#)

...DWELL IN THE WORD...

1. "BUT WAIT, THERE'S MORE!" Think back to the many blessings and privileges the author has taught us that make the New Covenant so wonderful. Write at least four wonderful distinctives of the New versus the Old Covenant



2. In addition to the greatness of the better Covenant, what else has the author laid out as evidence, exhortation, and encouragement for his audience? Give at least three examples:



3. Now, consider his call to action here in 12:25 and review all the way back to his (the author's) opening point in [Hebrews 1:1-2](#). What is his strong call to action? What is this warning based on? What is at stake?

The call to action...

It's based on...

What's at stake is...

4. What "time" is the author reminding them/us of when he says "at that time" in 12:26? (Remember the context of this chapter and Exodus 19:18.)

5. Read [Haggai 2:6-9](#) which is the prophecy the author is referring to in chapter 12 when he contrasts "that time" (the time at Mt. Sinai) with the time to come. List the "I will" promises God gave:

I will...

I will...

I will...

I will...

6. The author then goes on to explain what that prophecy was pointing to. Read [Hebrews 1:10-12](#) which the author cited from [Psalm 102:26](#). What is he reminding us of what will happen?

7. The final judgment will come! Read and sum up each of these descriptions of that time:

[2 Peter 3:10-12](#)

[Revelation 21:1](#)

8. Who are the “us” the author has been referring to in 12:28? (Remember [10:39](#)) and what are they/we receiving?

9. The author wraps up encouraging two natural responses:

Let us be _____ and let us _____

10. What view of God inspires this response of gratitude and worship?

11. How does that worship look in our lives?

[John 4:19-24](#)

[Romans 12:1-2](#)

...REFLECT ON THE WORD...

What’s our natural and healthy response to fire? Keep clear! Come close, but not too close. All through the message of Hebrews, the author has been pointing out that what was once unapproachable is now available – Draw near! Come close! In fact, he’s reminded us that not only are we able to draw close, God has already entered in. God is so closely in that he reminds us that God’s Word is now on our heart! That’s close! Their way of closeness has been made possible because of Jesus – our anchor of hope who made the way past the curtain keeping us out and left the curtain open for us – better, he dramatically ripped it open! With all that closeness we might be tempted to rush in and lather up in the grace thankful that it is His kindness that drew us in...but his kindness, while kind is only truly kind if we remember the alternative – consuming fire! It’s not a call to draw near to a cuddly God who has no concern for our past as much as it is a reverent response to the Creator of the universe who calls us in his kindness to repent of our sins and then approach with confidence – leaving the sins and weights behind so we can with uplifted hands and straightened knees walk to Him. And walk we must or face the consequences. God beckons us by his love and kindness and God also warns us to come by His way, not ours – through Christ,

...Lesson Twelve - Day Nine...

...WRITE & MEMORIZE THE WORD...

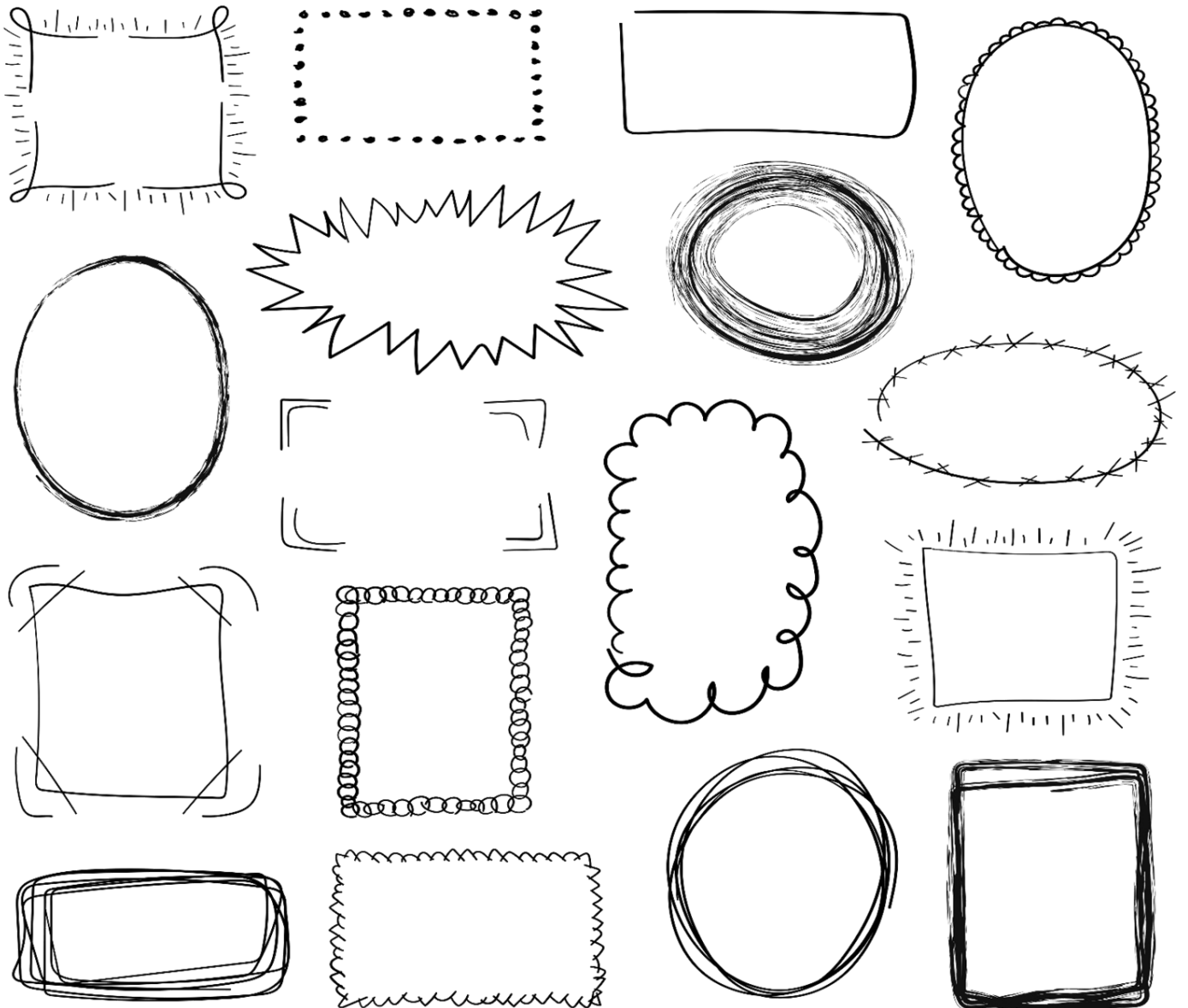
HEBREWS 12:1-2

...PRAY THEN READ THE WORD...

Re-read [Hebrews 12](#)

...DWELL IN THE WORD...

Today's Create & Share is to re-read chapter 12 and connect with someone in your small group about something you found...
...challenging...eye-opening...difficult...encouraging...Use one or more of these frames to hold a verse or personal thought on
this chapter, then share it with someone in your group, or use the back side of this page to write your thoughts.



Hebrews _____



A series of horizontal lines for writing, framed by decorative floral borders on the left and right sides.

Hebrews _____



A series of horizontal lines for writing, framed by decorative floral borders on the left and right sides.

You are Loved
and
Prayed for.



