

Celebrating 35 Years of Ministry at Hill Country A Call to Serious Christianity

Scripture: Hebrews 12:1-3

Sermon Points:

1. The serious Christian life is like a **glorious marathon**.
2. The serious Christian life is **singularly focused on Jesus**.

Group Opener

This weekend we are celebrating 35 years of faithful ministry. Tell us what the ministry of the Tim Hawks and Hill Country has meant to you through the years, what are some highlights?

OR (if your group is new) - Where were you 35 years ago?

Discussion Questions:

1. CONTEXT OF THE MESSAGE/SCRIPTURE
Hebrews 11 has been called the Faith Hall of Fame, take a min to read through it individually. Do any of their lives motivate you to look at the way you are living?
2. Athletic competition has been a craze for most cultures throughout history and it certainly is with ours today. In what way does running a marathon make a good metaphor for a serious Christian life?

Hebrews 12:1-3 (NIV, 1984) Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

3. As you read the call to a serious Christian life in Hebrews 12:1-3, what would be some of the hinderances or sins that hold you back from living fully for Jesus?
4. If a serious Christian life requires a singular focus on Jesus, what would it take for you to maintain that focus in your life?
5. Is there a specific "calling on your life" something that you feel called to do or a ministry that you should serve or start? How can this small group help you?

Christ Together Greater Austin: christtogethergreaterAustin.com

Christ Together National: christtogether.org

Via Nations: vianations.org