

## SERMON OUTLINE

In Hebrews 12:12-17, we receive 3 commands based on the truths found in vs. 1-11.

- I. Strengthen your spirit.
  - A. Lifting drooping hands (v. 12a).
  - B. Strengthening weak knees (v. 12b).
- II. Straighten your path (v. 13a).
  - A. So sin doesn't increase (v. 13b).
  - B. So healing ensues (v. 13c).
- III. Strive (v. 14a)
  - A. For peace (v. 14b).
  - B. For holiness (v. 14c).
  - C. While you make sure (v. 15a)
    1. No one misses salvation (v. 15b).
    2. No root of bitterness rises up (v. 15c).
    3. No one is like Esau (v. 16c):
      - a. an idolator (v. 16a).
      - b. unholy (v. 16b).
      - c. unrepentant (v. 17).

## BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, May 16, 2021

Passage: Hebrews 12:12-17

Memory Passage: Hebrews 12:12-14

### DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

### READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Heb. 12:12-17 & Is. 35:1-10.** Upon what truths is the “therefore” which begins v. 12 based (cf. 12:1-11)?
- (b) Verse 12 quotes Is. 35:3. What similarities do you find between Is. 35 & Hebrews 12:12-17?
- (c) Are the commands found in v. 12 primarily addressed to one’s outer or inner man? Explain your answer.
- (d) What causes you to become spiritually and physically weary in your walk with Christ, and how does what you learned in chapter 12 fuel your obedience to verse twelve’s commands?

### DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

### READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Heb. 12:12-17.** Explain how the metaphor of a weary runner continues in v. 13.
- (b) Explain what this metaphor refers to in your spiritual walk as you endure sin for discipline’s benefits (cf. 12:7)?
- (c) What parts of your daily walk with Christ are “lame,” how are they continually put “out of joint,” and what “straight paths” should you pursue so your walk will “be healed?”
- (d) What signs might others give that they are struggling with spiritual weariness, and what will you do when you see them?

### DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

### READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Heb. 12:12-17.** The command to “strive” (v. 14) conveys a continuous action, as in “keep striving for.” In what ways are you not at peace with anyone (cf. “with everyone”), and how will you begin actively pursuing peace with them?
- (b) What is the “holiness” for which we should strive, how exactly must we strive for it, and what role does the Lord’s discipline play (cf. v. 10)?
- (c) Why does it require holiness to “see the Lord,” and when will this happen?
- (d) What activities and thoughts are you currently embracing that are antithetical to your striving of holiness, and how will you readjust your walk and thoughts to pursue holiness actively?

### DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

### READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Heb. 12:12-17 & Deut. 29:18-20.** What does “fails to obtain the grace of God” mean, and how does the body (notice the corporate focus) “see to it” that no one does this?
- (b) After reading Deut. 29:18-20, explain what a “root of bitterness” is and whether it is individual or corporate.
- (c) Explain the danger (i.e., “many become defiled”) if the body fails to stop this root of bitterness from spring up?
- (d) How do you recognize if you are the root of bitterness springing up? How do you recognize others? What steps can be taken if this root of bitterness rises up, whether it is you or someone else?

### DAY 5 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

### READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Heb. 12:12-17.** Why was Esau considered “sexually immoral or unholy” when he sold his birthright?
- (b) In what ways are you like Esau (“see to it that . . . no one is . . . like Esau”)? In what ways might you become like him?
- (c) Why did Esau find “no chance to repent?” What had already happened that he could not reverse?
- (d) Explain what our author says to his audience in vs. 15-17 (i.e., what does he want them to both understand and do)?
- (e) Explain what you must do in obedience to vs. 15-17.

DATE: May 16, 2021

PASSAGE: Hebrews 12:12-17

*Strive for Peace & Holiness*