Why Jesus? Who Else?

Someone Better Hebrews 12:1-14 Pastor Phil Winfield August 4, 2013

For you have need of endurance, so that after you have done the will of God, you may receive the promise: Heb 10:36

So "How can we have enduring faith when times are difficult?"

- 1. Look at the witnesses for $\underline{encouragement}$ (v.1)
- 2. Lay aside the weights that $\underline{disable us} (v.1)$
- 3. Lay aside the sin that **disqualifies us**.
- *4.* Look to Jesus as our **<u>enabling example</u>**. (v.2)
 - *a.* Look He is the **author of your faith**. Ephesians 2.8-9.
 - *b.* Look He is the **finisher of your faith**. What he began he will complete.
 - *c.* Look He considered <u>his passion</u> a joy.
 - *i.* His joy was **redemption**
 - *ii.* His joy was a **reward**
 - d. Look He endured <u>hostility and opposition</u>, such as we will never face. (v.3)

Finally:

- We are running a race. It takes **<u>effort</u>**; personally.
- It is a race against <u>sin</u>
- It is not a race against other Christians
- It is race for a **<u>reward</u>**.

Are you even in the race?