**Hebrews**

Developing a lifestyle of Faith

1. Bible Project
2. Supremecy of Jesus
3. Hebrews 64 AD, Jewish Christians in Rome/Nero

“Therefore we must pay greater attention to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away from it.” 2:1

“It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer (Jesus) of their salvation perfect through sufferings. For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father.” 2:10-11

“Today if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as in rebellion……They always go astray in their hearts , and they have not known my ways. As in my anger..” 3:7-11

“Take care, brothers and sisters, that none of you may have evil, unbelieving heart….hardened” 3:12

Hardened heart: cold, insensitive, unyielding

Causes of a hard heart

Suffering 2:10-11

Fear 2:14

Lack of Faith 4:2

Disobedience 4:6

Evil 3:12 - Evil: that which is opposed, opposite, contrary to God

Unbelief 3:12

 A hardened heart is heavy – it ways us down

“I will give them one heart, and put a new spirit within them; I will remove the heart of stone from their flesh and give them a heart of flesh, so that they may follow my statutes and keep my ordinances and obey them. Then they shall be my people and I will be their God.” Ezekiel 11:19-21

“Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and the perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.”

Hebrews 12:1-2

Lay Aside: cast away, lay down far from, get rid of, let go of FOR GOOD

Cast Away, let go of…everything that presses us down, that impedes spiritual progress

Limiting beliefs

Hard heart/disobedience

Habits

Idols

Disappointments

Unforgiven hurts/grudges

Finances

Worry/Anxiety

Fear

Emotional burdens

Health concerns

Involvements

Good things

Cares

Living by faith is a lifestyle. / develop a lifestyle of throwing off the weights that impede us/sanctification process

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Questions for Discussion

1. What are our weights???? What can we leave behind?

2. What prevents us from serving God effectively?

3. What things in our lives take our eyes off Jesus?

4. How can we make this process of “casting off” a lifestyle, something we do regularly?

“Whether you believe you can, or believe you can’t, you are right. “ Henry Ford

“But we are not among those who shrink back and so are lost, but among those who have faith and so are saved. Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.”

Hebrews 10:39-11:3