

JESUS IS **BETTER**

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Church

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Week 23 – A Better Father

Hebrews 12:1-3

"Witness" = Greek word "Martyr"

Hebrews 12:4-7

Verb "To discipline" same root as noun _____

Discipline is _____ in the midst of hardship

Discipline is not _____

Repentance = a change of _____ or perspective

Vs. 6 - "Chasten" = to inquire _____

Hebrews 12:8-11

Discipline is for our _____, that we may share in His _____
(holiness)

Hebrews 12:12-15

Verse 14 word-for-word translation:

Grk:	eirEnEn	diOkete	meta	panton	kai	ton	hagiasmon
Eng.	<i>Peace</i>	<i>be-ye-chasing</i>	<i>with</i>	<i>all</i>	<i>and</i>	<i>the</i>	<i>holy-ing</i>

Grk:	hou	chOris	oudeis	opsetai	ton	kurion.
Eng:	<i>of which</i>	<i>apart from</i>	<i>not-yet-one</i>	<i>shall-be-viewing</i>	<i>the</i>	<i>Lord.</i>

Hebrews 12:16-29

How do we respond to the Kingdom that God has made us a part of by His grace? With _____ – and a heart to worship with reverence and awe!

SMALL GROUP Q'S

Personal Life:

1. At the beginning of chapter 12, the author emphasizes the practical power of "fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith." What does it actually look like to live a life with our eyes "fixed on Jesus?" Try to offer some specific examples to wrap your minds around...

Ponderings:

2. Verse 2 says that Jesus "endured the cross" because of the "joy set before Him." What kind of love must it take to care for something so deeply that the torment of crucifixion could be overcome by joy? Is there really ANY earthly love you can think of which is so selfless? Share your thoughts...
3. Verses 4-11 talk deeply about the subject of our Father's discipline. Why is it so critical to realize that discipline = discipleship and not punishment? How is discipline so very different from punishment? How does the Father's discipline give evidence of our legitimacy as God's children (see vs. 8).
4. Verses 12-15 teach us to live at peace with everyone so we can see people come to faith in Christ without trouble between us and those we're called to reach. When you think about how many Christians often interact with the controversial issues in culture, what kind of a grade (A through F) would you give the modern American Church in terms of striving to live at peace with those we disagree with? Why do you say this?
5. Verses 18-24 contrasts the dreadful moment of the Law being given to Israel with the joyous celebration of the Kingdom of Jesus and His New Covenant. Given the stark contrast, why do you think some Christians still have such a tough time letting go of relating to God on a law-based level?

Promptings:

Chapter 12 closes out with the proclamation that we are receiving a "kingdom that cannot be shaken." In what ways is your life daily demonstrating a disposition of "thankfulness" for everything you possess in Christ? If your life is characterized by grumbling, complaining and discontentment, what might that say about your degree of trust in Christ? What steps might you take to begin adopting a daily attitude of gratitude, and how might such a shift impact you and your relationships?