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## **Fixing Our Eyes** (Sight Series #8)

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**Hebrews 12:1-3** <sup>1</sup>Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off every encumbrance and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with endurance the race set out for us. <sup>2</sup>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. <sup>3</sup>Consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart. (BSB)

### I. Here are the details of this passage.

- A. We are not alone in our **struggles**. Many saints have gone before us who have gone through similar trials to us and they made it through. V.1
- B. This gives us **courage** to take on our situation and to repent from what holds us back. V.1
- C. A key word in this verse is endurance. Endurance implies that you keep going **forward** no matter what. Never give up! V.1
- D. Our focus has got to be on **Jesus**, not what we struggle with. V.2
- E. He was victorious against **evil men** and we can receive encouragement from his example and receive strength from Him.

### II. What can we learn from this passage?

- A. Learn **faith** stories from the past. If they made it so can we.
- B. You are not alone. Others struggle with the same things that you struggle with. Find someone to **talk** to.
- C. Remember that sin, like love, is both a **noun** and a verb. We will deal with the **noun** our whole life but the verbs we have some control of.

**Romans 7:18-25** <sup>18</sup>I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my flesh; for I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. <sup>19</sup>For I do not do the good I want to do. Instead, I keep on doing the evil I do not want to do. <sup>20</sup>And if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but it is sin living in me that does it. <sup>21</sup>So this is the principle I have discovered: When I want to do good, evil is right there with me. <sup>22</sup>For in my inner being I delight in God's law. <sup>23</sup>But I see another law at work in my body, warring against the law of my mind and holding me captive to the law of sin that dwells within me. <sup>24</sup>What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? <sup>25</sup>Thanks be to God, through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, with my mind I serve the law of God, but with my flesh I serve the law of sin. (BSB)

**I John 1:8-10** <sup>8</sup>If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup>If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. <sup>10</sup>If we say we have not sinned, we make Him out to be a liar, and His word is not in us. (BSB)

- D. Keep your focus on Jesus Christ not your **situation**. He has saved you, He is saving you and He will save you in the future. When you get discouraged spend some time praising Him for His salvation!
- E. Expect persecution especially from **self-righteous** people.