COMMUNION SERIES ON HEBREWS



The Supremacy of Christ and Christianity

STUDY GUIDE • HEBREWS 12:14-17

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Avoiding Spiritual Dropout

Hebrews 12:14-17

WELCOME: Fixing Our Focus

Suggested Icebreaker: What are some things

that you are working hard or aiming for right now? What measures are you taking so that you are able to reach your goals?

WORSHIP:

Adoring Our God

Suggested songs:

- Yet Not I but Through
 Christ in Me
- Take My Life and Let it Be

WORD & WALK: Understanding & Applying the Word

LESSON AIM

- 1. GG members will be at peace with God and others.
- 2. GG members will encourage all to receive God's grace.
- 3. GG members will avoid sin.

INTRODUCTION

The author of Hebrews began chapter 12 with the imagery of a race where each believer is a runner. Believers are to let go of sin and run the race of faith. He then showed God's discipline as a means to train us to run the race. In this passage, the author highlights what believers are to strive for and what they should avoid.

The author urged believers toward obtaining God's grace (vv. 14-15a)

- What did the author urge the believers to strive for? What is the outcome when they strive for these?
- 2. What is this grace of God that the author wants everyone to obtain?

Application

- 1. What are the things that you are striving for right now? Why do you strive for them?
- 2. How can you strive for peace and holiness? Why are these two characteristics fundamental to the Christian life?
- 3. Have you obtained God's grace? If so, how are you helping others obtain it as well?
- 4. Have you shared to your community the grace you've obtained from God?

The author used Esau as an example to be avoided (vv. 15b-17)

- 1. What did the author mean by "root of bitterness?" Read Deuteronomy 29:16-20 for some insights. What does this passage talk about?
- 2. How did the author describe Esau? How would somebody like him act in our day and age?
- 3. What were the consequences of Esau's actions? How did Esau's actions/ attitudes contrast with what the author was urging believers to strive for?

WORD & WALK: Understanding & Applying the Word

Application:

- 1. What are some things we have today that may cause "root of bitterness" to spring up? How can we avoid this?
- 2. What are some negative effects upon others in the community whenever someone falls away?
- 3. How can we safeguard ourselves and each other from becoming like Esau?
- 4. What are some ways we can call on steadfast faithfulness in the face of adversity?

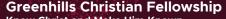
Prayer Item

Pray for each other, that you may strive towards peace and holiness. Pray that you may keep each other accountable so that you may avoid following Esau's example. Pray for people you know who still haven't obtained God's gracious gift of salvation. Ask God to give you opportunities to share the gospel with them.



Your feedback is important to us.

Do you find this study guide helpful in leading your growth group? If you used this study guide in leading your growth group, please rate it at <u>https://bit.ly/GCFSGFeedback</u>. Thank you!



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