

DON'T GIVE UP THE STRUGGLE

WEEKLY ACTION STEP

Find an encouraging story. Identify one person in your life (a friend, family member, or co-worker) and ask them to share a past struggle where they could clearly see God at work. What helped them grow in faith and not give up?

TAKEAWAYS

Acknowledge that the struggle is real.

Determine your focus.

3 Areas to Tackle When You're Struggling

- What is your focus? Fix your focus on Jesus.
- What's holding you back? Identify what is holding you back.
- Ask God - What is He trying to teach me? What can I learn from this experience?

SCRIPTURE

Read Hebrews 12:1-13

QUESTIONS

1. Pastor Dave reminds us that fixing our focus gives us encouragement to keep going in tough times. Where do you tend to focus when things get tough--on the things out of your control, the unfairness of the situation, on things that only affect you, etc.? Why do you think it is so easy to lose focus and languish in disappointment?
2. In Hebrews Chapter 12, Paul reminds us to keep our eyes focused on Jesus. How does your perspective change when you fix your focus on Jesus during your difficulties? Can you think of an example when you faced challenges but kept focused on God's strength and goodness?
3. Is there a current situation or past experience that God is using/has used to teach you something valuable? What are you currently learning from God's instruction and guidance?
4. Like any good parent, God disciplines us to help us grow, mature, and learn (Hebrews 12:10-11). Where in your life has discipline had a valuable impact in your life?
5. What is holding you back from following Jesus? What are you latching onto that trips you up and drags you down?
6. Read Hebrews 12:2-3, What was Jesus headed to do as He was carrying His cross? What was the joy set before Him? What does it mean for you to pick up your cross and follow Jesus? What joy does God have ready to set before you in order to help you to keep going?