

¹Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, ² fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. ³ Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart. (Heb 12:1-3.)

The Christian life is often described as a race that requires perseverance, focus, and unyielding faith. Hebrews 12:1-2 invites us to draw inspiration from the "great cloud of witnesses," to lay aside every weight, the sin that entangles, and to fix our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith. This race is not always easy, but by heeding the warnings, encouragements and focusing on Jesus, we can run with endurance and cross the finish line with our faith intact.

1. Run the Race with Perseverance

- Thank God for the "great cloud of witnesses" inspiring faithful living (Hebrews 12:1).
- Pray for strength to persevere in faith, staying anchored in God's Word (Hebrews 2:1).
- Ask for discernment to identify and remove distractions or sins that hinder spiritual growth (Hebrews 12:1).

2. Fix Your Eyes on Jesus

- Thank Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith, and pray for unwavering focus on Him (Hebrews 12:2).
- Ask for God's perspective on hardships, trusting Him to use them for growth in holiness (Hebrews 12:7-14).

3. Finish Well

- Thank Jesus for empowering you to endure and finish the race with joy.
- Pray for grace to stay focused, intentional, and unwavering in your faith journey.

4. Pray for BCBC's Gospel Mission

- Thank God for BCBC's establishment and mission to advance the Gospel in British Columbia.
- Pray for unity and clarity as BCBC fulfills its Christ-centered vision.
- Ask for effective Gospel teaching and empowered leaders to faithfully proclaim the Word.

5. Pray for Church Planting

- Pray for resources, wisdom, and opportunities to plant new Baptist churches in strategic locations.
- Ask for God to raise church planters with a passion for mission.

6. Pray for Church Health and Growth

- Pray for BCBC member churches to grow in spiritual vitality and outreach impact.
- Ask for blessings on discipleship, education, and evangelism efforts.
- Pray for steadfast, Spirit-led leadership among pastors and church leaders.

7. Pray for Stewardship of Resources

- Thank God for BCBC's resources, asking for wisdom in utilizing properties to further its mission.
- Pray for the successful acquisition of ministry-focused properties.

8. Pray for Financial Provision

- Pray for generous hearts and wise management of BCBC's financial resources.
- Ask for kingdom-focused outcomes in collecting and distributing funds.

9. Pray for Cooperation and Partnerships

- Pray for fruitful collaboration between BCBC and the Baptist General Conference of Canada.
- Ask for strengthened unity within the broader Baptist General Conference family.

10. Pray for BCBC's Future

- Pray for God's guidance and favor on BCBC's leaders, member churches, and initiatives.
- Ask for bold vision and faithful execution of plans to glorify God.
- Pray for BCBC to remain steadfast in its Gospel-centered mission.