DON'T GIVE UP, KEEP GOING! - 2/4/24

Let us run with endurance the race God has set before us. - Heb. 12:1b (NLT)

Heb. 12:1-4 (NLT)

- We are surrounded by a huge crowd of witnesses
- Strip off every weight that slows us down and sin that trips us up
- Run the race with endurance by keeping our eyes on Jesus, the
- initiator (KJV, "author") and perfector (KJV, "finisher") of our faith
- Jesus endured suffering because of the joy that awaited Him
- However much we think we've suffered, Jesus suffered more

Four spiritual principles about the Christian race of life, from Heb. 12:1-4:

- 1. Many great men and women of faith ran the race before us (v. 1a)
- 2. The race requires discipline and endurance (v. 1b)
- 3. We have an example to follow Jesus (v. 2)
- 4. Keep your life in perspective, so you don't become discouraged (v. 3,4)

James 1:2-4 (NLT)

- Troubles provide an opportunity for joy
- When faith is tested, endurance has a chance to grow
- When endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing

For our present troubles are small and won't last very long. Yet they produce for us a glory that vastly outweighs them and will last forever! 2 Cor. 4:17 (NLT)

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