

Romans 5:3-5

And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. 3 Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; 4 perseverance, character; and character, hope. 5 And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

James 1:2-4

Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, 3 because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. 4 Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

Hebrews 12:1-3

Therefore, 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.

Icebreaker

Jeff said he's always wanted to fly in a fighter jet? What is something you've always wanted to do?

Conversation Starters

- 1. Some people are thrill seekers, some like to play it safe. How would you describe yourself?
- 2. What's one challenge or turbulence you are currently facing? What's hindering you?
- 3. What's the difference between stuff that hinders us and sin that entangles us?
- 4. What's your perspective on trials, challenges and faith? How do they go together?
- **5.** Looking back at a time of turbulence in your past, did experience the presence, power or compassion of Jesus and his resurrection in a new or more real way.
- 6. What helps bring you perspective and move forward when things get hard?
- 7. What helps you "phix" your eyes on Jesus? When you face trouble where do you tend to fix your eyes.