

## Heart Abandoned: Fighting For Grace

*Hebrews 12:12-17*

**What impacts your heart the most from this Sunday's sermon?**

READ THE PASSAGE:

**Read Hebrews 12:12-17. What are the commands here for believers? What reasons does the writer give us for following these commands?**

**The passage begins with the word “therefore” which is a clue for us to look at the previous verses to see what the “therefore” is there for. Go back to Hebrews 12:7-12. What's reason do we have for strengthening ourselves in tough times?**

**Zoom in in Hebrews 12:13. It seems that our obedience to these commands doesn't just impact our own lives but the “lame” as well. Who do you think the writer of Hebrews is referring to? Who are the spiritually “lame” in your life?**

IN OTHER SCRIPTURES

**Our passage refers us to Esau's story in Genesis 25:29-34. Esau is the older twin brother of the Jewish patriarch Jacob. As such, his culture entitles him to an inheritance from his father Isaac that's twice the size of Jacob's. He is next in line to lead the family and gain the family' wealth and prestige once Isaac dies – this is his birthright.**

- What do you think of Esau's attitude towards his birthright?
- What does this say about Esau's character? What's important to him?

**What is our birthright as sons and daughters of God?**

- Ephesians 1:18-23
- 1 Peter 1:3-5
- Revelation 21:1-7

**What would it look like for us to adopt Esau's attitude towards our own inheritance?**

## MAKING IT MATTER

**In Hebrews 12:12-17, we're urged to see to it that "no one misses the grace of God" – how can someone miss God's grace, take it for granted, or despise it? What can we do to point someone towards His grace so they don't miss it?**

**We're also commanded to make sure "no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many." Where have you seen bitterness in your life or in someone else's? How does our bitterness defile not just us but others around us?**

**What do we need to do to get bitterness out of our hearts – not just the surface expression of it but the deep roots as well? How can we help each other as a small group?**