

## The Monthly Ministry Focus: June 2017

*A Moment of Scripture Focus for Every Ministry in First Baptist Church*



To Ministry Leader: Please read or have this scripture read at your monthly meeting /activity/rehearsal.

### **SCRIPTURE FOCUS FOR THIS MONTH**

#### **Hebrews 12:1-3**

**TRANSLATION: New Century Version**

**12** We are surrounded by a great cloud of people (witnesses) whose lives tell us what faith means. So let us run the race that is before us and never give up. We should remove from our lives anything that would get in the way and the sin that so easily holds us back. <sup>2</sup> Let us look only to Jesus, the One who began our faith and who makes it perfect. He suffered death on the cross. But he accepted the shame as if it were nothing because of the joy that God put before him. And now he is sitting at the right side of God's throne. <sup>3</sup> Think about Jesus' example. He held on while wicked people were doing evil things to him. So do not get tired and stop trying.

**Commentary:** Have you ever been a part of a **good** "team" – a sports team or a team at work or school? Or consider that your friends, family, and church family are a part of your "team." A good, supportive team celebrates with you when you do well, but gives you even more support when you stumble or slip-up. They cheer you on--telling you not to give up.

The Bible tells us in Hebrews that we are surrounded by a great "cloud of witnesses." These witnesses are our "team." One writer says, these "witnesses are thousands of saved saints who are looking down on us – Abraham, Peter, David, Joshua, your grandmother, your friend, your coach – cheering us on." They have witnessed God's grace, and they are pulling for you! They are our cheering section, chanting our names...telling us not to give up -- to run with "patience the race that is set before us."

You may miss the mark sometimes; you may falter; you may get discouraged, but never forget that you are still a part of God's team. Don't give up; keep going!

### **WANT TO HEAR MORE?**

**Come to Vacation Bible School 2017 where we will explore the theme "The Faith Run – On Course with God!" based on the verse above – Hebrews 12:1. VBS is June 26-29, 2017. See the bulletin for more information.**