Dec 4,7 Hebrews 12 A Better Endurance

Connect (15-20 mins)

1. Follow up on any prayer requests from last week. Share highs and lows or updates as you settle in. You can also find our list of 100 Ice Breaker Questions in our Leader Tool Kit in your Well account.

Grow (5-10 mins)

2. Last week we talked about sharing our story to encourage others in their faith. Spend some time discussing how you can share your story with both believers and nonbelievers in ways that strengthen faith and open doors for the gospel. If there is a specific person(s) that comes to your mind, ask your group to help pray and encourage you in this.

Share (45-60 mins)

- 3. Looking back, how did you previously view God's discipline, and how has this weekend's message reshaped or deepened that understanding?
- 4. Describe a time when you endured a difficult season that challenged you and now, in hindsight, see how it strengthened your faith in God?
- 5. It was said that there are encumbrances that we are called to lay aside in order to endure in our faith unhindered. What encumbrances do you feel like need to be laid aside? This could be old patterns of thinking, habits that we've generated, influences that have shaped us, or sins that easily entangle us.
- 6. Read Romans 5:1-5 and James 1:2-4. Both these passages affirm that Spirit-led endurance produces maturity in us, not as a way of earning God's favor but as a result of already standing in grace. What does it look like in your current season of life to put in effort through trials (endurance), instead of having a mentality of earning?

Practice: Experiencing Ongoing Freedom

Read verses 4-11, then spend some time meditating on this scripture and enter into a time of prayer with the Lord over it.

7. God's discipline is a part of the journey for every true child of God (v.7), take heart and lean in. As you consider the ways God shapes you through consequences of sin, conviction by His Word and Spirit, and even correction through His people—how is He inviting you to submit to His loving discipline? If you have not been experiencing his discipline, take a moment and reflect on why. Perhaps he is inviting you to surrender yourself from your old way of life and to embrace the Gospel through Jesus and start walking in His way.