

Small Group Questions: Until Christ is formed in you Part 3 - Hebrews 12

1. Read James 1:2-5 and Romans 5:1-5
 - Discuss your response to these verses.
 - Why do we often react to them?
 - What is required for us to come to the point of counting trials as a joy?
2. Do you believe this quote from Willaim Barclay?
"The true Christian knows that whatever comes to him comes from a God who is a Father, and that a "fathers' hand will never cause his child a needless tear". He knows everything that comes means something, is meant for some purpose, is designed to make him a better and wiser man (or woman)."
-William Barclay
3. Look at Hebrews 12 v5, v10, v11
 - What do they say about the Lord's discipline?
 - What can we often forget?

4. Bruce asked the question:

So, what is required of us to see God transform us into Christ's image?

His first point was:

Always remembering:

- We are loved sons and daughters
 - That God is for us
 - That God is committed to form us into the image of Jesus
 - That God is able to do that (form us into the image of Jesus) whatever our situation, whatever we have done, or whatever has happened to us
- Discuss what happens when we forget these truths?
 - Which one do you struggle with most?
 - How do we avoid self-pity? How do we try at times to justify it?
 - How can we help each other here?

Barclay: *"We shall cease from self-pity, from resentment and from rebellious complaint if we remember that there is no discipline of God which does not take its source in love, and which is not aimed at good."*

5. Share with each other examples of people where you have seen real beauty come out of suffering?

6. Giving up when we are suffering is often very tempting. What kept Jesus going through suffering? Hebrews 12 v2. How can we help each other do this?
7. In the light of this study, what do you need to hear most? What are you struggling with? What do you need prayer for?
8. Consider as a group memorizing either Hebrews 4 :14-16 or Ephesians 6:16 (ESV)