



GROUP QUESTIONS FOR **EASTER 2026**

Series: *By Faith*

The Founder and Perfector of Our Faith (Hebrews 12:1-2)

Icebreakers!

1. If you have ever run a race, share something you learned from the experience.
2. What's something you've done that was hard, but you kept going at it, because of the joy in store for you at the end of it?

Growing Together

3. **Study Hebrews 12:1-2 on the back of this page.** Circle important things you see, and put arrows by anything that could be hard to understand. What big ideas stand out?
4. Who are the fellow runners with you—dead and alive—in this race God set before us?
5. What distractions and weights often slow people down in their race of faith? What are you still letting slow you down instead of laying it/them aside?
6. How does sin constrict us, control us, limit us, and tire us in our race of faith? What sins have you laid aside—or do you need to lay aside—and leave behind to run with Jesus?
7. What's your pace in following Jesus? Is it start-and-stop; a casual walk; a sprint, followed by exhaustion; an aimless meandering; or a well-paced run?
8. How can the joy set before Christians enable us to run well, with endurance? What will you remember to train your heart on the JOY ahead for those who run with Jesus?
9. Do you see Jesus as a fellow runner, or as outside our “race” of life by faith? Why?
10. **What did you hear in the message this Sunday that stood out to you?**
Is there anything you would emphasize, add, or change?

Head, Heart, and Hands

11. Is your head in the race? Who are you running with, since you're surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses? How will you keep focusing your attention back on Jesus?
12. Why does your heart keep holding onto the weights and sins that cling so close? What are the greater joys in Jesus that will enable your heart to loosen its grip on these?
13. How will running, or walking, prompt you to praise God and to refocus on Jesus? How will you run with your spirit, even if your body can't?

Hebrews 12:1-2 (ESV)

Therefore,
since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses,

let us also lay aside every weight,
and sin which clings so closely,
and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,

looking to Jesus,
the founder and perfecter of our faith,

who for the joy that was set before him
endured the cross,
despising the shame,
and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.