

GROWTH GROUPS

February 26, 2012

Hebrews 10:26-39

Conversation Starter

Threatened by intense persecution, these early Christians may have wished they knew what they were getting into before they decided to follow Christ. Have you ever found yourself trying to be faithful in the midst of something you had no idea would be so hard when you started. If so, are you willing to share this? Do you wish you had known about the challenges before you began?

Understanding -

As the recipients of this letter faced persecution for their faith they were tempted to fall back to their old life turning away from the ways of Christ. This passage provides a strong warning against denying Christ after we have claimed to receive Him while also offering a strong encouragement to persevere.

1. In the Greek, verse 26 begins with the word translated “deliberately” in order to add emphasis. What is the author trying to say by emphasizing the word “deliberately” as it relates to our relationship with Christ? Define “deliberately” and talk about what this might look like in practical life.
2. Those who deliberately keep on sinning even after receiving Christ are called “enemies of God.” (v.27) Study verses 26-31. Verse 26 says that if we deliberately keep on sinning after having received the knowledge of the truth, no sacrifice for sins is left. Verses 28-31 explain the justification for this. Do you think this is a fair justification? Why or why not?
3. Verses 32-39 are words meant to encourage us to persevere in faith until the end. They should be read along with Hebrews 10:24-25. After re-reading these passages consider the following question: “What helps you to preserve through challenges to your faith?” How can the friendships forming in the growth group intentionally offer you this support?

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