

SERMON NOTES

WHAT BRINGS JESUS JOY

HEBREWS 12:1-3 | ADAM ZAMORA

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

Ice Breaker: What brought joy to you or made you laugh this week?

Ice Breaker: What's been most helpful to you this past season of small groups?

In your own words, what would you say Sunday's message was about?

Read Hebrews 12:1-3. Explain the phrase "we have so great a cloud of witnesses." Who are they? Are they watching us?

What is the difference between an encumbrance and sin? What kinds of things could be encumbrances, but perhaps not sin?

If you had to answer, what would you say are one or two things that, although not sins, encumber you or weigh you down spiritually?

To be unencumbered as we follow Christ means to remove things in our life that weigh us down or hold us back. Have you had to let go of a friendship, activity, hobby or pursuit in your life because it was weighing you down? Please explain.

We are also encouraged to throw off all the sin that hinders us from following Jesus. Read Matthew 9:6, Mark 2:5, Luke 5:8, and John 5:14. What do these passages about Jesus teach us about leaving our life of sin? What sin do you need to leave?

What is the race that we are in? What does it mean that this race is "set before us?"

Pastor Adam spoke about this on Sunday, but in your own words, what do you think was the joy that was set before Jesus?

Read Hebrews 12:3 again. Knowing that He would die a painful and humiliating death, Jesus still considered the cross a joy. Why?

Learning from Jesus example of being joyful, how can we be joyful even in difficult circumstances?