FIXING OUR EYES ON JESUS

Hebrews 12:1-13 Key Verse: 12:2

- 1. To what does "great cloud of witnesses" refer (1; 11:1-40)? How does the author encourage us to run the race of faith? What hinders us? What attitude is required to run well?
- 2. Read verses 2-3. On whom should our eyes be fixed and why? What does it mean that Jesus is the pioneer and perfecter of our faith? How does this Jesus enable us to run the race? What help can you find here in setting a spiritual direction for the new year?
- 3. To what does "sin" refer (4; 3:12-14)? How serious is it to resist sin? How does God's word encourage us in the midst of hardships (5-6)? What responses to God's discipline are warned against? How should we receive God's discipline?
- 4. What can we learn about God and ourselves in times of divine discipline (7-9)?
- 5. What is the purpose and result of God's discipline (10-11)? How should we receive discipline in order to enjoy its blessing (12-13)?

 $^{^{1}}$ The word "witnesses" comes from the word for "martyrs." These are witnesses of Christ. Their examples encourage us, but they are not spectators of our race.