

*The Letter to the Hebrews:*  
*Chapter 12*

Largo-Seminole Women's Bible Study  
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**TELEIOO (TELEIOS)** = to complete,  
accomplish, finish; fulfill.

On the cross, Jesus said, "Tetelistai"  
"It is finished!"

He had finished the job He came to do.

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"...the Prophets and Moses said was  
going to take place; that the Christ was  
to suffer, and that by reason of His  
resurrection from the dead He would  
be the first to proclaim light both to the  
Jewish people and to the Gentiles."

Acts 26:22-23

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Instructions to the believers in the race:

- "let us lay aside every encumbrance" = anything  
that would hold you back spiritually
- lay aside "the sin which so easily entangles"
- "run with endurance"

5

**HUPOMENO** = to abide under, stay under, endure

10:32 “you endured a great conflict of suffering

10:36 “you have need of endurance”

11:25 “choosing rather to endure ill-treatment”

11:27 “for he endured, as seeing Him who is unseen”

12:1 “run with endurance”

12:3 “Him who has endured such hostility by sinners”

12:7 “it is for discipline that you endure”

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“**No soldier** in active service  
**entangles himself** in the affairs of  
everyday life, so that he may please  
the one who enlisted him as a soldier.  
If anyone competes as an athlete, *he*  
*does not win the prize unless he*  
*competes according to the rules.*”

II Tim 2:4-5

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Instructions for believers in the race:

- “let us lay aside every encumbrance”
- lay aside “the sin which so easily entangles”
- “run with endurance”
- “fixing our eyes on Jesus”

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He “rebukes” them with two observations:

- They had not resisted to the point of shedding blood
  - They had forgotten that true sons should expect discipline from their fathers.
- Quotes Prov 3:11-12; alludes to Deut 8:2-5

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“You shall remember all the way which the LORD your God has led you in the wilderness these 40 years...testing you, to know what was in your heart, .... He humbled you and let you be hungry...that He might make you understand that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by everything that proceeds out of the mouth of the LORD....God was disciplining you just as a man disciplines his son.”

Deut 8:2-5

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PAIDEIA = “discipline” =  
tutorage, education, training,  
direction, teaching, disciplinary  
correction, chastening,  
instruction, nurture.

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Purpose of discipline:

- Preventative
- Corrective
- Develops maturity

Discipline may involve:

- Reproof v.5
- Spanking v.6 (“scourging”)
- Sorrow v.11

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God’s discipline:

- Demonstrates that He loves us v.6
- Shows that we are His children v.7-8
- Yields the fruit of righteousness v.11

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Instructions for difficult times:  
v.5a “do not regard lightly the discipline of the LORD”  
= recognize its value  
v.5b do not “faint when you are reproved by Him”  
= don’t give up  
v. 12 “strengthen the weak hands and feeble knees”  
v.13 “make straight paths...so that the ...lame may not be  
put out of joint, but rather be healed”  
v. 14 “pursue peace...and sanctification”

14

“...that there will not be among you a  
root bearing poisonous fruit and  
wormwood...saying, ‘I have peace  
though I walk in the stubbornness of my  
heart.’”  
Deut 29:18-28

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Mount Sinai	Mount Zion
The Law shows their sinfulness	God’s grace provides salvation
They begged that no further word be spoken.	God spoke to us through His Son
Forbidden to touch under penalty of death	Where saints walk on streets of gold
We’re told to stay away	We’re told to draw near and come boldly (10:22; 4:16)

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v.22-23: the occupants of the heavenly Jerusalem:  
• myriads of angels  
• the general assembly and church of the firstborn enrolled in heaven = the church  
• God, the Judge of all  
• The spirits of the righteous made perfect = the OT saints (cp 11:40)  
• Jesus, the Mediator of a New Covenant

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### Lessons from Hebrews 12:

1. The examples of believers who have endured are an encouragement to us not to give up. 12:1
2. Keep your focus on following Christ; He will never disappoint you. 12:2-3
3. Recognize God's discipline for what it is, proof of His love for us, and respond accordingly. 12:5-17
4. Don't "refuse Him who is speaking" to you. 12:25-29