

## Small Group Discussion Guide – Read Hebrews 10:32-39

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- Joshua mentioned at the beginning that **vs. 32-39** might be the entire purpose for the letter of Hebrews. He also mentioned that this passages gives us, for the very first time, the setting of what was happening in the lives of these first-century believers. What was going on and why does the author pen this letter?
- Why is perseverance in faith or endurance such an important theme in this letter? What are some unhelpful or unbiblical ways of thinking about the “necessity” of perseverance for final salvation?
- In what two ways does the author seek to help his readers persevere? Where does he want them to look in vs. 32-34a? Where does he want them to look in vs. 34b-39?
- In vs. 33-34, what were the two ways they were demonstrating practically their persevering faith? What should this reveal to them and to us?
- How might it be helpful and faith-strengthening to reflect on struggles already endured in the past? What are some “hard struggles” or persecutions you have endured since you came to faith in Christ?
- How were these Christians able to “joyfully” accept the plundering of their property and endure insults and afflictions? (see also Matthew 5:11-12; 6:19-21) Why is this so shocking? How does vs. 34 confront “the American Dream” today?
- What core beliefs must we hold to in order to help us rejoice in the midst of our suffering and hardships? What would be some important promises we need to regularly ‘recall’ and remember in order to help us fix our gaze on our great reward in heaven?
- How might the suffering of Christians actually increase the power of our witness to the unbelieving world?