



## Not So Secret Sauce wk4: Perseverance

**Introduction:** The best stories are ones where somebody faces great obstacles, yet they keep going and eventually overcome. While we love those stories, living them requires perseverance. This quality is one that everybody needs, but most don't enjoy acquiring it. What if it is the key to finishing well in the faith?

### Discussion Questions

1. What is the thing that you have done that required the most physical or mental endurance? Did you train for this or was it something you just had to do?
2. Read **2 Peter 1:5-8** Why do you think endurance is a necessary quality to add to faith? How can perseverance and self-control work together?
3. What are some movies that you love that showcase perseverance? Why do we love those stories? Is there any great story where there is no obstacle to overcome?
4. Read **Hebrews 12:1-2** This comes on the heels of chapter 11 where there are many people mentioned for being faithful, in spite of not seeing everything they hoped for come to pass. What does the author trying to encourage us to do with these reminders? How does the knowledge that people are with you help when things are difficult?
5. According to Hebrews, what do we need to do to run our race well? In the sermon, life was compared to a "stage race," instead of a marathon where how we do in some stages affect the others. What do you think of that idea?
6. How can repentance enable endurance?
7. What joy did Jesus see that motivated his endurance for the cross? How can we find joy in painful trials?

**Shaping Your Mind** – *"make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance..." 2 Peter 1:5-6*

**Moving Forward** – There is joy before us, if we just don't quit!