



Cloud of Witnesses

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.” Hebrews 12: 1-2

I love the image of a great cloud of witnesses, it’s like a big huddle of loved ones and faithful ancestors surrounding us, cheering us on, supporting us, and sometimes even challenging us to keep going. These are the people whose faith helped shape our own, family, friends, mentors, teachers, and saints of the church, those who showed us what it means to love God and love others.

Their stories live on in us. Their faith continues to ripple through our lives and into the world. As we remember them, we also remember that we are now part of that story, called to run our own race with perseverance, carrying forward the light and love they shared.

Questions for Reflection and Conversation:

- If you picture that “great cloud of witnesses” as a big huddle around you, who is there?
- What did you learn from one of those people that still guides you today?
- What legacy did they leave you, and how are you carrying it forward?
- What “weights” might you need to lay aside in order to run your race with perseverance?
- How might your life reflect the light and love of Christ to others, becoming part of someone else’s “cloud of witnesses”?