



Welcome to the Easter 2026 season of GLC. As we prepare for Easter, we will take time to reflect on the burden that Jesus endured for us. May the Lord bless each of you as we learn, reflect, and grow together through this study.

exploring

We will explore God's word together, looking at the actual words of the passage each week.

digging

We will dig deeper into the word, discussing the context and meaning of the passage.

growing

We will discuss how the passage is applied to our own lives.

going

We will discuss how the passage informs, challenges, and encourages our gospel witness.

GLC Study Guide
March 8, 2026
The Shame of the Cross
Hebrews 12:1-2

Exploring

Read Heb. 12:1-2. The text tells us we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses (Refer to Heb 11:1-40). These witnesses ran the race and endured to the end.

1. Share about those whom you consider great witnesses from your life or from recent history. What was it about their witness that inspires you?

The text also tells us that Jesus endured the cross because of the joy that was set before him. In the sermon, Paul mentioned this joy was the salvation of your souls. Jesus endured the cross for the benefit of everyone else but himself.

2. How can those around you benefit from your faithful endurance? Who specifically comes to mind?
3. Jesus also despised the shame of the cross, meaning he gave it no power over his decision to pursue his church. What shame do you face that is a barrier in your decision to pursue the church?
4. What causes this shame to have power over you?

We can look to those behind us for strength and to those ahead of us for motivation



Digging

5. Refer again to the cloud of witnesses in Heb 11. Take note of the various outcomes of their faith. What does this tell you about the results of faithful endurance?
6. Look at Heb 11:39 and 12:2. Even though we may not receive certain things in this life while in Christ Jesus, what can we be assured of?

Growing

Take 3 minutes, close your eyes, someone read out loud.

Imagine Jesus on the cross, spikes in his hands and feet, blood flowing from his crown of thorns, his slaughtered back, his broken body. He can barely breathe while people curse him and mock him. What do you hear, see or smell? How do you feel or what is going through your mind?

Now imagine Jesus, clothed in white, exalted on high, seated at the right hand of the Father. All those who have put their faith in him are there. There are angels signing Holy, Holy, Holy to the lamb that was slain. What do you hear, see or smell? How do you feel or what is going through your mind?

Open your eyes.

7. Share with each other what you experienced in this envisioning of Jesus despising the shame and being seated at the right hand of God.
8. What should the assurance of your salvation do to the power of shame in your life?

Going

As you consider what you have heard from each other tonight and what you hear the Spirit of God speaking to you, take some time and share words of encouragement and affirmation with one another.