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Warm-up Questions:

We have experienced four handholds so far:
Faith, Goodness, Knowledge, Self-control

- Which one(s) are you most aware of using regularly?
- Which one has been most useful lately? Why?

Inductive Bible Study:

Observation (what does it say?) **SPEND MOST OF YOUR TIME HERE!**

As you read the text, ask: **WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHY, WHEN, HOW?**

Circle and draw lines to similar thoughts.
Notice contrasts and key words.

Interpretation (what does it mean?)

- What are the author's central thoughts to the reader?
- What is the context (time, place, circumstance, audience)?
- What spiritual principle or lifestyle change is addressed?

Application (what does it mean for my life?)

- What action step would demonstrate my obedience to what God is saying in this passage?

On your own, observe what these verses tell us about **PERSERVERANCE**. (Note: "Perseverance" and "endurance" are often used interchangeably in scripture.)

Use your inductive study tools to discover important dimensions of Perseverance.



SESSION GUIDE:



Romans 5:3-5

3 Not only so, but we[a] also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; 4 perseverance, character; and character, hope. 5 And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

2 Timothy 2:10

10 Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they too may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory.

Hebrews 12:1-2

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, 2 fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

James 1:3-4

3 because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. 4 Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

Now take some time to unpack your discoveries with the whole group:

- What did you discover about the source and motivation for Perseverance?
- Is there a challenge you are facing right now that has no end in sight, and no clear solution?





T E A C H I N G

Action Steps:

Let's get personal about the need for this handhold in your life.

- Is Perseverance the most needed Next Right Thing for me to cling to right now? Why?
- What, besides fatigue, makes Perseverance seem like an unsatisfying handhold?

In triads close your time in a circle of support and prayer, including these verses as part of your prayer over each man:

“May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.” (Romans 15:5-6)

Prepare for Session #6: Read chapter 7 in DNRT: GODLINESS