

## HANDOUTS

### Endurance for the Promise: A Call to Faithful Leadership

*Based on Hebrews 10:36 — "For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God, you may receive what was promised."*

Sermon Content

#### A Call to Faithful Leadership

#### Point 1: Crisis of Leadership

The original readers of Hebrews were Jewish Christians facing intense persecution — tired, discouraged, and tempted to walk away. Sound familiar? Leadership fatigue is real, and the enemy would love nothing more than to see you abandon the post God assigned you.

- Hebrews 10:32 — They had already endured much; endurance is normal in Christian leadership
- Hebrews 10:35 — "Do not throw away your confidence" (Greek: apoballō — to deliberately cast off something valuable)
- The warning: Some were one bad meeting, one more criticism, one more disappointment away from quitting

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#### Point 2: The Context: Why Endurance Matters

The Greek word hypomonē means active, courageous perseverance — not passive resignation, but a soldier holding his position under fire.

#### Point 3: Circumstances demand Endurance

Common reasons leaders lose commitment:

- Unrealistic expectations — reality didn't match what you imagined
- Comparison — looking at others breeds discouragement
- Spiritual attack — the enemy targets those making a difference
- Lack of spiritual refueling — pouring out without filling up

The good news: Endurance isn't manufactured through willpower — God develops it through trials (James 1:2-4).

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### Point 4: Completing God's Will

Endurance has a purpose — not just to survive, but to complete God's will. Three clear expressions of God's will for leaders:

- Shepherd His people (1 Peter 5:2-3) — You're caring for souls, not managing programs. Success = lives transformed.
- Serve with humility (Matthew 20:26-28) — Kingdom leadership is upside-down: give away power, provide service, sacrifice position.
- Remain faithful (1 Corinthians 4:2) — God requires trustworthiness, not worldly success.

Key Shift: When you serve for obedience rather than applause, commitment becomes a privilege — not a burden.

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### Point 5: Coming into possession of the Promise

Endurance is worth it. God promises real rewards to those who remain faithful:

- You will see transformation — lives changed, disciples made, people becoming more like Jesus (1 Thessalonians 2:19-20)
- You will experience God's presence more deeply — His strength sustains you when yours runs out (Isaiah 40:31)
- You will hear "Well done" — not applause from people, but approval from Jesus (Matthew 25:21)

Remember: God sees every sacrifice, every early morning, every difficult conversation. He does not forget. (Hebrews 6:10)

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### Point 6: Considering taking Practical Steps to Recommit

Moving from inspiration to action:

1. Renew your calling — Go back to your "burning bush" moment. Journal and pray about your original call.
2. Establish accountability — Find 1-2 leaders for honest, regular check-ins (Ecclesiastes 4:9-10).
3. Commit to spiritual disciplines — Daily Bible reading for your soul, consistent prayer, personal worship.
4. Set healthy boundaries — Delegate, protect family time, and guard your rest. Sustainable service honors God.
5. Focus on faithfulness, not results — Your job is obedience; God's job is growth (1 Corinthians 3:6-7).

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Bonus: Celebrate small victories — gratitude fuels endurance!

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### Scripture References

#### Hebrews 10:36

*"For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God, you may receive what was promised."(NASB)*

#### Hebrews 10:35

*"Therefore, do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward."(NASB)*

#### James 1:2-4

*"Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. And let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing."(NASB)*

#### 1 Peter 5:2-3

*"Shepherd the flock of God among you, exercising oversight not under compulsion, but voluntarily, according to the will of God; and not for sordid gain, but with eagerness; nor yet as lording it over those allotted to your charge, but proving to be examples to the flock."(NASB)*

#### Isaiah 40:31

*"Yet those who wait for the Lord will gain new strength; they will mount up with wings like eagles, they will run and not get tired, they will walk and not become weary."(NASB)*

#### Matthew 25:21

*"Well done, good and faithful slave. You were faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master."(NASB)*

#### Hebrews 6:10

*"For God is not unjust so as to forget your work and the love which you have shown toward His name, in having ministered and in still ministering to the saints."(NASB)*

#### 1 Corinthians 4:2

*"In this case, moreover, it is required of stewards that one be found trustworthy."(NASB)*

### Discussion Questions

*For personal reflection or group discussion*

1. What specific circumstance has most tempted you to "throw away your confidence" in your leadership role? How have you responded?

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Your thoughts:

**2.** Of the four reasons leaders lose commitment (unrealistic expectations, comparison, spiritual attack, lack of refueling), which resonates most with you right now — and why?

Your thoughts:

**3.** How would your leadership change if you measured success by faithfulness rather than visible results?

Your thoughts:

**4.** Which of the five practical steps to recommit do you most need to act on this week? What is one concrete action you can take?

Your thoughts:

**5.** Who in your life currently serves as an accountability partner in your leadership journey? If no one, who could you invite into that role?

Your thoughts:

### Key Takeaways

*Main points to remember and apply*

- 1.** Endurance (hypomonē) is not passive survival — it is active, courageous perseverance. God develops it in you through trials.
- 2.** Christian leadership is not about filling organizational slots — it is about doing the will of God: shepherding people, serving with humility, and remaining faithful.
- 3.** God sees every sacrifice you make in leadership. He does not forget, and He will reward your faithfulness.
- 4.** Sustainable service honors God more than burnout. Set boundaries, refuel spiritually, and focus on obedience over outcomes.
- 5.** The promise is real — transformation in others, deeper intimacy with God, and one day hearing "Well done" from Jesus.

### Additional Notes

- Key Greek word: hypomonē (Hebrews 10:36) — active, courageous endurance; not gritting your teeth but pressing forward with purpose
- Key Greek word: apoballō (Hebrews 10:35) — to deliberately cast off something valuable; a warning against intentionally abandoning your calling
- Personal reflection space — What was your original calling moment? Write it here:

• This week's commitment: \_\_\_\_\_