

Determined to Be Like Christ

Introduction

Read the following or relate it in your own words.

The words of others can hurt us; they can make us angry; and as a result, our focus or our eyes are easily turned on them instead of staying on Jesus. It takes a determined spirit not to let others affect us, and to keep close to our Saviour, Who has experienced all—more than we ever will.

The Scripture

Read the Scripture to the group.

“For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds.” —Hebrews 12:3

A Real Life Example

Read the following or relate it in your own words.

Tammy’s Gift

Tammy’s art class was busy working on their projects for the day. They were making mosaic frames. Tammy sat at a table with a group of girls from her class and was busily working on her frame. She picked out some more blue pieces to place around the edge of her frame. Her mom’s favorite color was blue. Just then one of the other girls walked by and stopped to look at her frame. “Your pieces are all crooked, Tammy!” said Laura. “They are never going to line up straight.”

Tammy looked up and just smiled. “I like it,” she said. “I know my mom will like it. She told me that she’d love to have a nice frame to put our family picture in. So I’m going to make it for her birthday.”

Laura laughed and walked back to where the rest of the girls were sitting. Tammy heard her laughing and telling them how crooked her frame was, and that she thought Tammy’s mom wouldn’t like it at all. Tammy bit her lip and looked down at her frame. She thought to herself, “Please help me, Lord. I am determined not to get upset or be angry with Laura for being unkind to me. I know the whole world was unkind to you. Help me to be like you, Lord.”

Questions for Discussion

1. Explain how Tammy was feeling while she was working on her project.
2. Why do you think Laura said what she said?
3. Describe how you think Tammy felt after Laura made fun of her project.

4. What was Tammy determined to do?
5. What was the desire of Tammy's heart?
6. How did thinking about Jesus help Tammy?

Conclusion and Resolution

Read the Scripture again. Read or explain the conclusion in your own words. Ask the group to suggest what specific changes that they can resolve to make in their daily lives that will help them to implement needed changes in this area. Ask them to especially consider things they have learned in the Bible to use as scriptural guideposts to a more competent and productive life.

“For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds.” —Hebrews 12:3

Oh, that we would keep our eyes on our dear Saviour, that we would be determined to let no one have power over us to discourage us, or hurt us, or to take away our joy.