

“THE CLIMB OF YOUR LIFE”

Pastor Bryce Hutson

Share if you have ever climbed a mountain or taken an extended hike or camping trip. What was your experience like? Did you ever get discouraged and feel like quitting? What helped you to keep going? How do you view the climb or trip now that it is over?

- **The climb** symbolizes our walk with Christ. That first step began when you repented of your sins and asked Jesus to become your Lord and Savior.
 - 1) Read Hebrews 12:1, 2. What does Paul tell us to lay aside? What does he tell us to fix our eyes on? Are you carrying too much baggage up the mountain? Are you open to God’s gentle nudges to turn from sin? Where is your focus?
 - 2) Read John 15:5. What can I accomplish on my own? Let that sink in.
- **We cannot climb alone.** Are you hooked up to the rope line up the mountain or are you off by yourself? Read Ecclesiastes 4:9,10.
 - 1) Do you have a mature Christian brother or sister to help you on the rope line? Are you connected to the body of Christ? Visualizing a rope line up the mountain is a clear picture of how much we need each other **and** also how important it is that we are strong Christians. Are we prepared to help another believer if they fall?
- **The right map.** What are you using to help you climb the mountain? Do you spend time in God’s manual for life to prepare you for the emergencies? Where do you turn to first when you need answers? Is it the world or God’s Word? Read Psalms 119:105.
- **Keeping on the trail.** “Many times all God wants from you is obedience and he has already taken care of the rest.” – Pastor Bryce. Sometimes the hardest step on the trail is the step of obedience - trusting God when we don’t understand or it is painful. Read Psalm 37:5. Do you commit your way to the Lord? Do you trust God to take care of you in any situation you might face?

APPLICATION: *(living out what you learned this week)*

- Pick one of the areas above in this study that you need God’s help with. Are you climbing alone? Pray for friendships and find a way to connect through bible studies, service projects, life groups, etc. Are you struggling with obedience and faith? Commit to spending time in God’s word every day allowing it to strengthen your faith. Make a change, a step toward God. Don’t do it alone, ask God for help.

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