

A WINNING FAITH: RUNNING THE RACE OF FAITH

Use this guide for personal or small group study.

REFLECT >>>

1. In your view, is running the race of faith a sprint or marathon?
2. Do you think there is a participation trophy when it comes to your faith? Why or why not?
3. Who has run the race of faith well that you look up to in your life?
4. Why did they run the race well?

READ YOUR BIBLE >>>

- Hebrews 12:1-3
- 1 Corinthians 9:24-27
- Matthew 19:27-30

APPLY GOD'S WORD TO YOUR LIFE >>>

1. How can you develop the necessary endurance needed to run your race of faith?
2. How does “fixing your eyes on Jesus” give you perseverance in running the race of faith?
3. Corinthians implore us to, “Run in such a way as to get the prize.” What are some things you do to run your race of faith well?
4. Contrast “running to get the prize” with “running aimlessly.” What causes us to run aimlessly and lose focus on the goal?
5. In Matthew, Jesus presents both a promise and a warning regarding faith. What is the promise and what is the warning?

6. Based on Jesus' words, describe what running the race of faith looks like to you.

Running the race of faith is a lifelong endeavor that requires discipline and perseverance. As we run, we need to shed the weight of sin that holds us back and takes our focus off the finish line. At the same time, we need to develop stamina and strength to keep on keeping on. The scripture implores us to look to models of faith to inspire us and to "fix our eyes on Jesus." Jesus has defeated the sin that wants to pull us out of the race. More than that, He is the supreme model of faith. His promise to us is that the prize awaits in heaven and all who persevere in faith will receive that glorious prize of life with God. That promise fuels our perseverance. So, run your race of faith to win the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. The Lord Himself is cheering you on!

PRAY >>>

Lord, You have set the race before me. Your call to run with dedication and purpose following the example of Your Son who endured to win the prize and pave the way for all who call on His Name. I call on Your Name today to pave the way and to renew my heart and soul to run the race of faith with passion, pursuing the prize of life with You. I'm running my race for You, O Lord. Amen.