

“FINISH THE RACE”

Series: “Better Than All The Rest”, Part 9 of 10
Sunday, March 28, 2021 at 9:00 and 11:00 AM
Palm Sunday

Text: Hebrews 12:1-3

Big Idea: The Christ-following life is a marathon that, if it is to be run with excellence, requires pruning, patience and intense perseverance until the race is done.

Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance, and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, 2 fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. 3 For consider Him who has endured such hostility by sinners against Himself, so that you may not grow weary and lose heart. -Hebrews 12:1-13 {NASV}

However, I consider my life worth nothing to me, if only I may finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me—the task of testifying to the gospel of God’s grace. -Acts 20:24

Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. -1 Corinthians 9:24

You were running a good race. Who cut in on you and kept you from obeying the truth? -Galatians 5:7

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. -2 Timothy 4:7

Run in such a way as to get the prize. 25 Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last; but we do it to get a crown that will last forever. 26 Therefore I do not run like a man running aimlessly; I do not fight like a man beating the air. 27 No, I beat 2 my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize. -1 Corinthians 9:24a-27

1. BE INSPIRED BY THOSE WHO'VE RUN BEFORE YOU.

Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance, and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us. -Hebrews 12:1 {NASV}

And all these, having gained approval through their faith, did not receive what was promised. -Hebrews 11:39 {NASV}

You have persevered and have endured hardships for my name, and have not grown weary. -Revelation 2:3,

And others were tortured, not accepting their release, in order that they might obtain a better resurrection; 36 and others experienced mockings and scourgings, yes, also chains and imprisonment. 37 They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were tempted, they were put to death with the sword; they went about in sheepskins, in goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, ill-treated 38 (men of whom the world was not worthy), wandering in deserts and mountains and caves and holes in the ground. 39 And all these, having gained approval through their faith, did not receive what was promised. -Hebrews 11:35b-39 {NASV}

2. DISENGAGE FROM ANYTHING THAT WOULD HOLD YOU BACK AND WEIGH YOU DOWN.

"Let us also lay aside every encumbrance, and the sin which so easily entangles us." -Hebrews 12:1b {NASV}

3. FIX YOUR EYES ON JESUS.

"Fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith." -Hebrews 12:2a {NASV}

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today, yes and forever. -Hebrews 13:8 {NASV}