

SERMON NOTES

RUNNING THE RACE

Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it. And everyone who competes for the prize is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a perishable crown, but we for an imperishable crown. (1 Corinthians 9:24-25)

FOCUS TEXT: Mark 8:34-38; 1 Corinthians 9:24-27

- ✓ The race is _____ *Matthew 7:13-14*
- ✓ Entrance according to the rules *Acts 2:37-41*
- ✓ Rules must be _____ *Matthew 7:21; 2 Timothy 2:5*
- ✓ Race must be finished *1 Corinthians 9:24-25; Philippians 3:14*

Remove _____ *Hebrews 12:1a; Ephesians 4:22ff*

Endurance *Hebrews 12:1b; Hebrews 10:36*

Do not get _____ *Hebrews 12:2-3; Philippians 2:6*

Exercise discipline *1 Corinthians 9:26-27*



The Christian life is a spiritual marathon - not a sprint. It requires a lifetime of dedication, devotion and doggedness. It's not always easy – convenient - or popular. But the true disciple of Jesus is not deterred – dismayed or distracted. Running, like the Christian life, requires self-discipline. It is necessary to forego pleasures that others engage in. Some that may be harmful and others that are not necessarily wrong but may hinder your health and fitness. A runner must endure aches, pains and strains. A dedicated runner persists in hot weather, cold weather, rainy weather. When he feels good. Or bad. Or just blah! He runs! He runs with purpose. Passion. And perseverance. The Christian race requires that same self-control. Running, like discipleship, demands focus, attention, and single-mindedness. You must keep your eye on the goal. Pay careful attention to what you are doing. In a race, there is one winner. The ancient prize was a laurel wreath crown on their head. It was perishable. It would soon wither. And waste away. The Christian crown is imperishable. It is eternal life. And all who complete the race will receive the prize. (Ken Weliever; www.thepreachersword.com)

THERE IS ONLY _____ RACE LEADING TO _____

THE RACE OF ETERNAL _____ THE RACE OF ETERNAL _____

He who believes and is BAPTIZED will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned. (Mark 16:16)

*I have fought the good fight, **I have finished the race**, I have kept the faith. Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing. (2 Timothy 4:7-8)*



March 17, 2024 (Kent Heaton)

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1 CORINTHIANS 9:24-27

Words can go horizontally, vertically and diagonally in all eight directions.

C O R I N T H I A N S H V Z P D O G G E D N E S S X J F L L
 K M X E J F L M N T H T J N H H S G N I L L A C W J R Y H V
 R R G C X M M D B I E L D L V L C M T E Z G P L R J K Q T J
 R P P N R Q T R M M A Y H G A N W D T V T N L B E J R N I K
 W H B A E G F F W O V T Z I O R W E C H L I X R A R L R A T
 X I A R N L G M T T E W R J M A L M G A N N T R T V I Y F W
 N L T B R A B F P H N T K G P P L I C D V N R J H G X D N N
 O I H M G E T A I Y T X H G M P E T N V K U X B H N E F A K
 I P E U K L T H H N Q H P O N W S H L J T R Z T G I Q I H K
 T P N C K N Q A E S I R C L T I G F O C U S E Z F T T E M J
 A I S N G L B Z E N I S T K T T H J M N N O T I H S L Y B B
 C A M E L L D J T H A R H X R K X T X Q U R L T I L N V N R
 I N H G R T R M Q T T I E E P R W N O S G A K R K T V R Q C
 D S X T Y P T M Z Z P I C P R T T F N L U P H G G N B L N Q
 E J B H K R A K N F R W H E M O R E P Q C C W Y O Z R T H M
 D Z M R M N A U V L I R T P F I S M S M N L L I A U T H O R
 C O U R S E N E L Q Z J D P M S Y I W E H T T A M L J H Z G
 P Y R B N J L V W L E F B D X A D N R J P A V X T Q E M R Y
 E H C L Q T P E R S E C U T I O N O T G T W H G N A N E X R
 R Q G Q B E S L T P U R P O S E M N E I K T P M R M E D K M
 I L H M V K N E N N L L H K C A V X V T R T Q T K C J E L E
 S R R T R L F D L L I P M M N T C N J M P U Z C E N D G C V
 H T Q J A V D R U U C R F S F L I H G N I D N A M E D A R M
 A C B D X P D C O R R H P G U H X R N O F R N N K K R R W N
 B P R K E P H E S I A N S S Y E F M F H J G H T E G W U N K
 L L C O S E C N A R D N I H M B D B M T J N T X L R R O M P
 E D J U W D K R L P N V C H H R L C N A V T U X X P V C R D
 T H S V T N K T N K E F F E M E T C L R W R R X M G L S K M
 R E C N O I T O V E D Z V G Q W F M F A Y K T B J R Q I V W
 J L N M E N I L P I C S I D F S L T N M V Q Z C V M Z D W D

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ACTS
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 CLOTHING
 COMPLETE
 CORINTHIANS
 COURSE
 CROWN
 DEDICATION
 DEMANDING
 DEVOTION
 DISCIPLINE

DISCOURAGED
 DISQUALIFIED
 DOGGEDNESS
 ENCUMBRANCE
 ENDURANCE
 EPHESIANS
 EXCLUSIVE
 FAITH
 FINISHER
 FOCUS
 GOAL
 GREECE
 HEART
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 HINDRANCES
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 INVITATION
 JESUS
 MARATHON
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 PAUL
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 PERSECUTION
 PHILIPPIANS
 PRIZE
 PURPOSE

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 RIGHTEOUSNESS
 ROMANS
 ROME
 RULES
 RUNNER
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