

Run the Race (1 Corinthians 9:19-27)

Bondservant – Part 4

Life Church St. Louis – February 22, 2015

Lead Pastor – Dr. Dan Walker

Romans 10:9 (NIV) That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

2 Timothy 4:7-8 (NIV) I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day--and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

1. _____ as many as possible

1 Corinthians 9:19 (NIV) Though I am free and belong to no man, I make myself a slave to everyone, to win as many as possible.

1A. _____ yourself for other's sake

1 Corinthians 9:20-22a (NIV) To the Jews I became like a Jew, to win the Jews. To those under the law I became like one under the law (though I myself am not under the law), so as to win those under the law. To those not having the law I became like one not having the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law), so as to win those not having the law. To the weak I became weak, to win the weak.

1B. Use _____ means to save others

1 Corinthians 9:22b-23 (NIV) I have become all things to all men so that by all possible means I might save some. I do all this for the sake of the gospel, that I may share in its blessings.

2. _____ to get the prize

1 Corinthians 9:24 (NIV) 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.

2A. Commit yourself to strict _____

1 Corinthians 9:25 (NIV) 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.

2B. Make wise use of your _____

1 Corinthians 9:26 (NIV) Therefore I do not run like a man running aimlessly; I do not fight like a man beating the air.

2C. Exercise _____ to avoid disqualification

1 Corinthians 9:27 (NIV) No, I beat my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize.

Run the Race (1 Corinthians 9:19-27) Study Guide

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Intro. What does it mean to confess “Jesus is Lord” (Romans 10:9)?

In what ways is the Christian life like running a race?

What does it mean to keep the faith (2 Timothy 4:7)?

Why is the crown of righteousness only given to those who finish the race (2 Timothy 4:8)?

- 1A. How does making yourself a slave to everyone, help you win as many as possible (1 Corinthians 9:19)?
- 1B. How can we relate to different kinds of lost people to bring them to Jesus (1 Corinthians 9:20-22a)?
- 1C. What are some of the possible means that we could use to bring people to salvation (1 Corinthians 9:22b-23)?
- 1D. Who has God put on your heart to reach for Jesus? What are some next steps you could take to win them?

- 2A. What are some characteristics of how an Olympic gold medalist would run their race (1 Corinthians 9:24)?
- 2B. What type of strict training does a runner undergo in preparation for a race (1 Corinthians 9:25)?
- 2C. How would the physical training of an athlete correlate to the spiritual training of a believer?
- 2D. Why is it important to have goals in the use of our time (1 Corinthians 9:26)?
- 2E. What are things that would disqualify an athlete from a race (1 Corinthians 9:27)?
- 2F. What would disqualify a believer from the race and so cause them to miss the prize (1 Corinthians 9:27)?
- 2G. What can you do in your own life to run better the race that God has laid out for you?
- 2H. How can you help someone else who is struggling in the race?