

Text: Philippians 3:12-21

## To Win The Race, I Need To...

1. \_\_\_\_\_ my \_\_\_\_\_

"Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect . . . I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. v.12-13

"I don't claim that I have already succeeded or become perfect." (GN)

"You will never succeed in life if you try to hide your sins. Confess them and give them up; then God will show mercy to you." Prov. 28:13 (GN)

Ask Yourself: Where do I \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ ?

2. \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_

"But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind" v.13b

"Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See I am doing a new thing!" (says the Lord) Isa. 43:18

### What to Forget:

- Your \_\_\_\_\_
- Your \_\_\_\_\_

Ask Yourself: What \_\_\_\_\_ do I need to \_\_\_\_\_ ?

The Race We Must Win

3. \_\_\_\_\_ on the \_\_\_\_\_

"But one thing I do. . .straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal ..." v.13c-14

Ask Yourself: What's my \_\_\_\_\_ ?

### Memory Verse

"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 win the prize."

1 Corinthians 9:24

4. \_\_\_\_\_ to the \_\_\_\_\_

"... I press on ... straining ... I press on to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus." v.12-13

"But I reckon my own life to be worth nothing to me, in order that I may complete my mission and finish the work that the Lord Jesus gave me to do, which is to declare the Good News of the grace of God." Acts 20:24

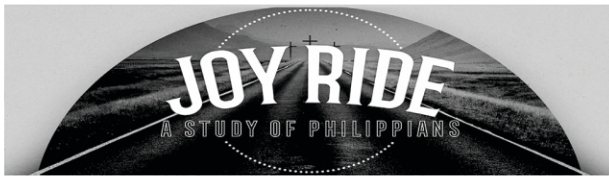
"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness which the Lord ... will award to me on that day ..." 2 Timothy 4:7-8

Am I \_\_\_\_\_ ?

### MY NEXT STEP IS TO...

- Begin to follow Jesus as my Lord for the first time today
- Memorize 1 Corinthians 9:24
- Ask God to help me to run my race in such a way as to win the prize
- Get the most out of today's teaching by attending my Life Group this week.





Text: Philippians 3:12-21

## To Win The Race, I Need To...

### 1. Face my Faults

"Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect . . . I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. v.12-13  
"I don't claim that I have already succeeded or become perfect." (GN)  
"You will never succeed in life if you try to hide your sins. Confess them and give them up; then God will show mercy to you." Prov. 28:13 (GN)

Ask Yourself: Where do I **Need** to **Change**?

### 2. Forget the Former

"But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind" v.13b  
"Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See I am doing a new thing!" (says the Lord) Isa. 43:18

What to Forget:

- Your **Past Sins**
- Your **Past Successes**

Ask Yourself: What **Memory** do I need to **Let Go**?

The Race We Must Win

### 3. Focus on the Future

"But one thing I do. . .straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal ..." v.13c-14

Ask Yourself: What's my **Goal**?

#### Memory Verse

"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 win the prize."  
1 Corinthians 9:24

### 4. Fight to the Finish

"... I press on ... straining ... I press on to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus." v.12-13

"But I reckon my own life to be worth nothing to me, in order that I may complete my mission and finish the work that the Lord Jesus gave me to do, which is to declare the Good News of the grace of God." Acts 20:24

"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 ... will award to me on that day ..." 2 Timothy 4:7-8

Am I **Growing**?

#### MY NEXT STEP IS TO...

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- Memorize 1 Corinthians 9:24
- Ask God to help me to run my race in such a way as to win the prize
- Get the most out of today's teaching by attending my Life Group this week.



## Discussion Questions - Week #2

# LIFEGROUPS

### QUICK REVIEW

Thinking back to the weekend sermon, "The Race We Must Win" summarizes the main point in a sentence or two.

Was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

Do you plan on taking any practical steps this week in response to the message?

### GETTING STARTED

● The message this weekend was all about running the race. Who is someone outside the bible who you would say ran the race well? What is it about their life that you find admirable or exemplary?

● Pastor Rick gave us four questions in the message that we ought to ask ourselves. Share your answer to at least one of the following questions with your group.

- Where do I need to change?
- What memory do I need to let go of?
- What's my goal?
- Am I growing?

### DIGGING DEEPER

1. Read 2 Timothy 4:6-8. How have you experienced living the Christian life as a fight or race?

How does running God's race differ from the race the world wants us to run?

What is the crown of righteousness Paul is talking about in verse 8?

Why do you think we're prone to run after other prizes and crowns?

Is there anything in your life that needs to change so that in the end, you can say, "I finished well"?

2. In Hebrews 12, the audience is enduring intense persecution and trials. The author's words are intended to encourage them to train and not give up. Read Hebrew 12:1-3. What stands out to you?

Who do you think the great cloud of witnesses is in verse one?

How have you experienced the encouragement of others to get you through challenging aspects of the race?

What are some of the things that you know you need to let go of to run the race well?

In verse two, we're told to "fix our eyes on Jesus." What are some practical ways of doing so?

### FOR PRACTICE

Two of the challenges Pastor Rick shared relate to orienting our vision from the past to the future, with a particular focus on Jesus. In the above passage, the author of Hebrews says, "We must fix our eyes on Jesus," or, as Paul says in Colossians, we are to "set our mind on things above." One of the main ways to do so is the discipline of memorization paired with contemplation and meditation on those truths memorized. As they say, "neurons that fire together wire together." Thus, as we think God's thoughts after Him, eventually, His thoughts, as revealed in His Word, will replace ours more and more. Choose one of the verses from the message, and set aside time this week for memorization and contemplation.

### SHARE IT

Is there anything you heard or learned in the weekend message or Life Group this week that you want to share with someone you know?

### PRAYER REQUESTS

☞ According to the Joshua Project, it is estimated that of the 7.83 billion people alive today, 3.37 billion live in unreached groups with little or no access to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Pray for Christian missionaries to enter these regions and for the Good News of Jesus to spread, leading to Spirit-led indigenous Christ-followers, leaders, and church plants.