ROCKY BALBOA



At The Movies: Part 6 July 17, 2016 Pastor Brian

1 Corinthians 9:24–27 (NCV)

²⁴ You know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize. So run to win!
²⁵ All those who compete in the games use self-control so they can win a crown. That crown is an earthly thing that lasts only a short time, but our crown will never be destroyed.
²⁶ So I do not run without a goal. I fight like a boxer who is hitting something—not just the air.
²⁷ I treat my body hard and make it my slave so that I myself will not be disqualified after I have preached to others.

WHAT IT TAKES TO GO THE DISTANCE!

1. PASSION.

"But my servant Caleb...He has a different spirit; he follows me passionately..." (Numbers 14:24, The Message)

Jesus said, 'Love the Lord your God with all your passion and prayer and intelligence.' (Matthew 22:37, The Message)

"For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases him." (Philippians 2:13, NLT)

2. PARTNERSHIP.

We work together as partners who belong to God... (1 Corinthians 3:9, NLT)

"Our bodies have many parts, and God has put each part just where he wants it...The eye can never say to the hand, "I don't need you." The head can't say to the feet, "I don't need you."" (1 Corinthians 12:18–21, NLT)

"Two people are better off than one, for they can help each other succeed." (Ecclesiastes 4:9, NLT)

3. PLAN.

"So I run with purpose in every step. I am not just shadowboxing." (1 Corinthians 9:26, NLT)

"Good planning and hard work lead to prosperity..." (Proverbs 21:5, NLT)

"For I know the plans I have for you," says the LORD. "They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope." (Jeremiah 29:11, NLT)

4. PACE.

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up..." (Hebrews 12:1, NLT)

"Yes, everything else is worthless when compared with the infinite value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have discarded everything else, counting it all as garbage, so that I could gain Christ" (Philippians 3:8, NLT)

"Everything Hezekiah did while he was king of Judah...was right and good. He was a successful king, because he obeyed the LORD God with all his heart." (2 Chronicles 31:20, CEV)

5. PERSISTENCE.

"Look straight ahead, and fix your eyes on what lies before you. Mark out a straight path for your feet; stay on the safe path. Don't get sidetracked; keep your feet from following evil." (Proverbs 4:25–27, NLT)

"Keep your eyes open, hold tight to your convictions, give it all you've got, be resolute," (1 Corinthians 16:13, The Message)

"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, and I have remained faithful." (2 Timothy 4:7, NLT)

LAST THOUGHT:

"It ain't about how hard you hit. It's about how hard you can get hit and <u>KEEP MOVING</u> <u>FORWARD</u>."

~Rocky Balboa~