

“RUNNING THE RACE OF LIFE,” 8 18 2024
(HEBREWS 12:1-3) By Larry S. Kendrick

Hebrews 12:1-3:

“(12:1) *Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. (2) Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author & perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. (3) Consider Him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.*”

(1) We can’t run the race God wants us to run until we first join His team.

I John 5:11-13

“*And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has life. He who does not have the Son of God does not have life. I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life.*”

Rev. 3:20,

(Jesus said) “*Behold, I stand at the door & knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, & he with me.*”

John 3:16 & 17

“*For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.*”

(2) Once we’re established as members of God’s team, how do we run the race God has marked off for us?

Hebrews 12:1

“*...throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.*”

I Timothy 4:8

“*For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come.*”

I Corinthians 9:24-27:

“*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. 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. Therefore I do not run like a man running aimlessly; I*

do not fight like a man beating the air 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.”

Philippians 3:12-14,

“*Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.*”

Colossians 3:5, & 8

“*Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires & greed...and...rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, & filthy language.*”

(3) We are not alone in our running of the Christian race.

Hebrews 10:24 & 25

“*And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love & good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another – and all the more as you see the Day approaching.*”

(4) How do I keep my eyes focused on Jesus and what does He want for my life?

NOTES:

QUESTION: – How are we doing in our running of God’s race?