

1 Corinthians 9:24-27

Run. Fight. Win.

1st Corinthians 9:19-27 NKJV –

19 For though I am free from all men, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win the more;

20 and to the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might win Jews; to those who are under the law, as under the law, that I might win those who are under the law;

1st Corinthians 9:19-27 NKJV –

21 to those who are without law, as without law (not being without law toward God, but under law toward Christ), that I might win those who are without law;

22 to the weak I became as weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all men, that I might by all means save some.

23 Now this I do for the gospel's sake, that I may be partaker of it with you.

1st Corinthians 9:19-27 NKJV –

24 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.

25 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.

1st Corinthians 9:19-27 NKJV –

26 Therefore I run thus: not with uncertainty. Thus I fight: not as one who beats the air.

27 But I discipline my body and bring it into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified.

1 Corinthians 9

It's Not About The Meat:

He Defended His Right to Receive Support (**9:1–14**)

He Defended His Right to Refuse Support (**9:15–18**)

For the sinners' sake (**9:19–23**)

For his own sake (**9:24-27**)

Pointed Paradox: Free from all and slave to all

Laying down our freedoms in Christ is about loving

Profound Purpose: Maewyn Succat

The gain of even “some” is worth the expenditure of
“all means.” - Jamieson, R., Fausset

1 Corinthians 9:24-25

24 Do you not know that in a race all the runners run [their very best to win], but only one receives the prize? Run [your race] in such a way that you may seize the prize and make it yours! **25** Now every athlete who [goes into training and] competes in the games is disciplined and exercises self-control in all things. They do it to win a crown that withers, but we [do it to receive] an imperishable [crown that cannot wither].

-AMP

1 Corinthians 9:24-25

- There is a race.
- στάδιον Stadion, a stated or fixed distance, 185m or 606.955ft.

1 Corinthians 9:24-25

- There is a race.
- You are in it.

1 Corinthians 9:24-25

- There is a race.
- You are in it.
- It has rules.

1 Corinthians 9:24-25

- There is a race.
- You are in it.
- It has rules.
- There is a goal and prize.

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- There is a goal and prize.
- You can win.
- Run!

1 Corinthians 9:24-25

- An Athletes Attitude

- Eric Liddell - Chariots of Fire

- "It's complete surrender"

- Profound Principle of Participation

- 100% Dependent and 100% Responsible

1 Corinthians 9:24-25

- Know the prize

- Incorruptible Crown—(1 Pe 1:4; 5:4; Rev 2:10)

- Eternity in Mind (Acts 14:19, 2 Cor 12:2–4)

- "For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? -

Matthew 16:26 NKJV

1 Corinthians 9:24-25

- We are not saved by running the race and winning;
- We run the race because we are saved (Phil. 3:12–16 and Heb. 12:1–3).

1 Corinthians 9:26-27 26 Therefore I do not run without a definite goal; I do not flail around like one beating the air [just shadow boxing]. 27 But [like a boxer] I strictly discipline my body and make it my slave, so that, after I have preached [the gospel] to others, I myself will not somehow be disqualified [as unfit for service].

- Know the Goal

Run. Fight. Win.

Discipline / Subjection = Behavior matches beliefs

The Goal = An obedient Spirit lead life with Christ.

Goal

“I know what I aim at, and how to aim at it. He who runs with a clear aim, looks straightforward to the goal, makes it his sole aim, casts away every encumbrance (Heb 12:1, 2), is indifferent to what the by-standers say, and sometimes even a fall only serves to rouse him the more” -Bengel

Philippians 3:12-16 NKJV

12 Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me.

13 Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead,

Philippians 3:12-16 NKJV

14 I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

15 Therefore let us, as many as are mature, have this mind; and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal even this to you.

16 Nevertheless, to the degree that we have already attained, let us walk by the same rule, let us be of the same mind. -

“The Lord bless you and keep you;
The Lord make His face shine upon you,
And be gracious to you;
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you,
And give you peace.”

Numbers 6:24-26 (NKJV)