

# **Run the Race Well**

**Ephesians 1:15-18**

## Run the race well...Ephesians 1:1-10

- What privileges and resources has the Lord placed in my life right now?
- Do you know and live out that you are chosen, you are adopted, made new and accepted through the work of Jesus?
- Are you accessing God's grace for your forgiveness, wisdom, understanding, direction, and purpose?

## Run the race well...Ephesians 1:11-14

- In Him we have redemption (1:7) through trust in Jesus
- In Him also we have obtained an inheritance (1:11) through trust in Jesus
- In Him we too have been claimed as God's own possession (1:11) through trust in Jesus
- In Him you also trusted (1:13)
- TRUST

## **Ephesians 1:15-16**

**<sup>15</sup> Therefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, <sup>16</sup> do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers:**

## Paul's prayer...

- **do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers:**
- Pray from thankfulness
- **after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints,**
- Pray from God's perspective

Running the race well requires...

Praying from  
God's perspective  
and  
from a place of thankfulness

## **Ephesians 1:17**

**<sup>17</sup> that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him,**

## **spirit of wisdom and revelation...**

- **spirit** – “breath; denotes the Holy Spirit”
- **wisdom** - the “practical, workable principles - the practicalities of life, how to do things, how to accomplish tasks.”
- **revelation** - “clear perception and applicable understanding” “seeing things from God’s perspective.”



Running the race well requires...

Praying for  
Holy Spirit LED  
Wisdom and Revelation

## **Ephesians 1:18a**

**<sup>18</sup> the eyes of your understanding being  
enlightened;**

**the eyes of your understanding being enlightened;**

- your heart may receive the brightness of hope resulting when the wealth of God's investment in you is understood
- receives God's truth, you realize it, and you feel it change the way you think because you experience His hope in that situation.
- HOPE is crucial for every believer.

# Biblical HOPE

- Hope - “confident expectation and desire for something good in the future” (Nelson, 1996).
- hope is a “trust in God”
- hope is an “expectation that He will be who He says He is”
- hope is He will “do what He says He will do”
- hope is connected to the very nature of God and the promises of God

## **Romans 8:24-25**

**<sup>24</sup> For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? <sup>25</sup> But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.**

Running the race well requires...

Praying that as our eyes are  
focused on God and His nature,  
we will experience our  
hope in Him

## **Ephesians 1:18b**

**that you may know what is the hope of His  
calling,**

**that you may know what is the hope of His calling,**

- **hope** - “confident expectation”
- **His calling** - “the origin, nature and destiny of which are heavenly; it is used especially of God's invitation to man to accept the benefits of salvation.”



## Calling is ...

- Kingdom living
- NOT my job title or ministry
- Invitation to walk out our identity in Him
- Being who He has called us to be in the midst of what we do.

Running the race well requires...

Praying that we would know  
the Kingdom Living God  
has CALLED us  
to live in and from

## **Ephesians 1:18c**

**what are the riches of the glory of His  
inheritance in the saints,**

**what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints,**

- **“grasp the immensity of this glorious way of life he has for his followers” (The Message)**
- **the wealth of God’s glorious inheritances that He finds in us, His holy ones! (TPT)**
- Our inheritance (who He is)
- His inheritance (who He made us to be)
- The inheritance of the Saints all around us

Running the race well requires...

Praying that we would  
know and experience  
MY inheritance in Him,  
HIS inheritance in me,

and His inheritance in EACH OTHER

- Pray from God's perspective and from a place of thankfulness.
- Pray for Holy Spirit led wisdom and revelation
- Pray that as our eyes are focused on God and His nature, we will experience our hope in Him.
- Pray that we would know the Kingdom Living God has called us to live in and from.
- Pray that we would know and experience my inheritance in Him, His inheritance in me, and His inheritance in each other.