

DID YOU PREPARE TO RUN?

Acts 1: ⁸ But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be [c]witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

1. Make sure Jesus is your boss,

1 Corinthians AMP 9: ²⁴ [c] 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!

- Consult the boss on decisions,
- If you say you are running on Jesus’ team, there are rules,

Matthew 7: ²¹ “Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. ²² Many will say to Me in that day, ‘Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?’ ²³ And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!’

2. Runners have Discipline

Joshua 1: ⁸ This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you [c] shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.

- The root and essence of God is captured in His word,

2 Peter 1: ⁵ But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, ⁶ to knowledge self-control, to self-control [c] perseverance, to perseverance godliness, ⁷ to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love. ⁸ For if these things are yours and abound, *you* will be neither [c] barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ For he who lacks these things is shortsighted, even to blindness, and has forgotten that he was cleansed from his old sins. ¹⁰ Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble;

3. How do I develop love for the race?

John 15: ⁷If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you ⁸will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. ⁸By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.

- In order to develop a desire for the things of God you must spend time with Him,

John 8: ³¹So Jesus was saying to the Jews who had believed Him, “If you abide in My word [continually obeying My teachings and living in accordance with them, then] you are truly My disciples. ³²And you will know the truth [regarding salvation], and the truth will set you free [from the penalty of sin].”

4. **Releasing your faith to be filled**

Acts 1: Acts 1: ⁸But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be ⁹witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

- First you must get the word on the subject,

Luke 11: ⁹“So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. ¹⁰For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. ¹¹If a son asks for ¹²bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone? Or if *he* asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent instead of a fish? ¹²Or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? ¹³If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will *your* heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!”

- Then you must act on the word by asking,