

Running the Race - Part 4 - Finish Line - Reward

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Running the Race - Part 4 - Crossing the Finish Line - Reward



Hebrews 12:1-2 NKJV, “Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, *looking unto Jesus*, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.”

A runner will experience many smaller victories (rewards) on his/her journey to the finish line. Our Race, while filled with obstacles, pain, and trials, will allow us to experience the Rewards of Running for the Kingdom of God while we head for the Ultimate Goal of finally crossing the finish line!

Looking Unto Jesus

1. Keep your eyes on the goal - **Focus**
Hebrews 12:2
2. You are NOT running alone

Deuteronomy 31:6, Isaiah 43:2, Matthew 28:20

While Your Flesh Grows Weary, Your Spirit is Strengthened

1. An athlete/runner reaches a point when it just starts “working.” All the hard work, endurance and training produces a body equipped for the race.
2. When we Run the Race with Jesus, the inner man is strengthened by His Spirit, allowing the Christian “runner” to reach new heights and depth in Christ!
Ephesians 3:16-21

You are Running for the Kingdom of God

1. While Heaven is our Ultimate Goal, running for the Kingdom must be our Daily/Weekly goal.
2. When we accept Jesus and begin “Running this Race”, We become citizens of heaven.
Philippians 3:20, Ephesians 2:19, Hebrews 11:16
3. We are surrounded by a great “cloud of witnesses”.
Hebrews 12:1

Finishing the Race - The Trophy - The Crown

II Timothy 4:7-8 *“I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.”*

1. “I have fought the good fight” - **Steadfastness**
2. “I have finished the race” - **Completion of Life’s Work**
3. “I have kept the faith” - **Unwavering Commitment**
4. “Crown of Righteousness” - **Reward for those Remaining Faithful**
5. “The Lord will award to me on that Day” - **Blessing of God Himself**
6. “And not to me only...” - **The Reward is Available to all WHO FINISH THE RACE!**