Intro: The Training Run

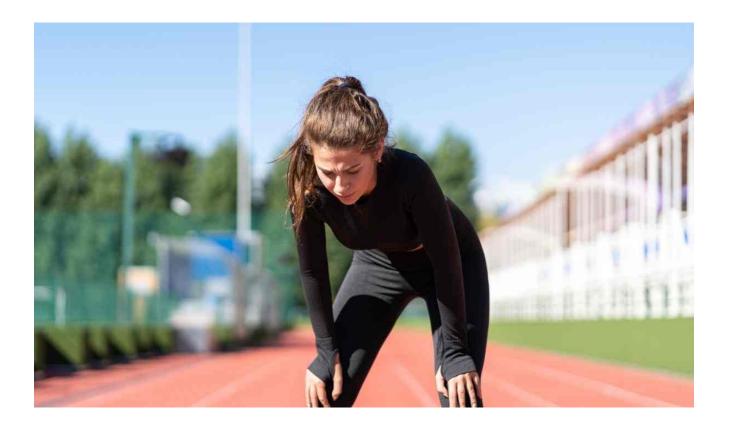




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Hebrews 10:23

"Hold unswervingly to the hope we profess..."

Hold = katechōmen (Catechism - training in sound doctrine... hold fast to TRUTH)

To avoid swerving in our faith, there is one specific thing we must hold fast to... the HOPE we profess.

"We have this HOPE as an anchor for our souls... " - Heb 6:19



We can't see the Heavenly City yet... but we are confident because of the CHARACTER and perfect track record of God!

Hebrews 10:24



A marathon isn't meant to be run ALONE... and neither is our FAITH JOURNEY!

"Therefore, since WE are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let US run the race marked out for US."

Spur one another on... Greek word literally means "PROVOKE".

There will be times when we are tempted to quit running the race and give up... this is when we NEED other believers to "spur us on".

Hebrews 10:25

We NEED each other... and yet SOME are in the habit of giving up meeting together!

Online meetings, online jobs, online school, online church... we can live without ANY face-to-face interaction... and it's not GOOD!

If we stay in our comfort zones, we never grow... we stay the same. And the goal of discipleship is most definitely NOT to stay the way we are!

Meet together = episynagōgen "Synagogue" - the church gathering

Meet together = episynagōgen "epi" means "in addition"... gather together IN ADDITION to the synagogue! (See Acts 2)



The joy of the race is the joy of the Church... we are called to do life TOGETHER... to encourage and even PROVOKE one another toward Christ-likeness!

The Author of Hebrews is calling us to MORE than Sunday mornings

The FBC mechanism for "doing life together" = Community Groups!

A Community Group is like have 10-20 Spiritual TRAINING PARTNERS

Interested in participating in CG - fill out the card on your seat

Interested in leading/hosting a CG or a summer "block party" in your area - talk to PD after service!