



**Run the Race / Checkpoints  
January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
Pastor Hayden Bewley**

## MATTHEW 14:27-33

But Jesus immediately said to them: “Take courage! It is I. Don’t be afraid.”

“Lord, if it’s you,” Peter replied, “tell me to come to you on the water.”

“Come,” he said.

Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus.

## MATTHEW 14:27-33

But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, “Lord, save me!”

Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. “You of little faith,” he said, “why did you doubt?”

And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

## HEBREWS 10:24-25

And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

## HEBREWS 13:7

Remember your leaders,  
who spoke the word of God  
to you. Consider the  
outcome of their way of life  
and imitate their faith.

**GOD BRINGS ABOUT  
MONUMENTAL CHANGE**

HOW CAN WE CONTINUE TO  
MOVE FORWARD?

**GOLD  
COUNTRY**  
**5K**  
MARSHALL  
WEST VIRGINIA

**CFTM**  
CENTRAL FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

**START/FINISH**

**CFTM**  
CENTRAL FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

**GOLD  
COUNTRY**  
**5K**  
MARSHALL  
WEST VIRGINIA







**A CHECKPOINT IS A TIME IN YOUR LIFE WHEN YOU REFLECT ON THE MOST IMPORTANT THINGS IN YOUR LIFE AND ASK GOD FOR DIRECTION AND POWER TO MOVE FORWARD.**

## HEBREWS 12:1-2

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

CHECKPOINTS REMIND US OF  
THE IDEAL. JESUS CHRIST

JOHN 15:5-11 ESV

I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned.

JOHN 15:5-11 ESV

If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples. As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love.

JOHN 15:5-11 ESV

If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

CHECKPOINTS REMIND US OF OUR  
SUFFERING AND ITS PURPOSE



NO PAIN. NO GAIN.

**SPIRITUAL WARFARE IS REAL**

## I PETER 5:8-9

Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings.

YOU ARE NOT ALONE IN THIS

# PERSECUTION AND POVERTY

## LUKE 9:1-4

When Jesus had called the Twelve together, he gave them power and authority to drive out all demons and to cure diseases, and he sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal the sick. He told them: “Take nothing for the journey—no staff, no bag, no bread, no money, no extra shirt. Whatever house you enter, stay there until you leave that town.

# PERSECUTION AND POVERTY

## MATTHEW 16:24-25

Then Jesus said to his disciples, “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it.



## PHILIPPIANS 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

# APPLICATION

## WHAT IS A CHECKPOINT?

A CHECKPOINT IS A TIME IN YOUR LIFE WHEN YOU REFLECT ON THE MOST IMPORTANT THINGS IN YOUR LIFE AND ASK GOD FOR DIRECTION AND POWER TO MOVE FORWARD.

# APPLICATION

1. WE ARE REMINDED OF THE IDEAL. JESUS CHRIST. WE ARE REMINDED THAT WE MUST ABIDE IN HIM. WE ARE REMINDED THAT WE CANNOT DO THIS ON OUR OWN.
2. WE ARE REMINDED OF OUR SUFFERING. THE SPIRITUAL WARFARE AND THE PHYSICAL CHALLENGES OF OUR FAITH.
3. LASTLY, AS IT SAYS IN **JOHN 15:11**, OUR JOY WILL BE MADE COMPLETE IN THIS. WE WILL RECEIVE THE JOY TO PRESS ON IN OUR RACE WITH GLADNESS AND THANKSGIVING.

JOHN 15:11

I have told you this so  
that my joy may be in you  
and that your joy may be  
complete.