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## **Radiant: Week 8** **Running The Race**

Joel Engle, November 21, 2019  
*Small Group Discussion Questions*

### **Getting Started**

Take some time to catch up and connect as a group. Pray before discussion. Expect God to move through your time together!

### **Pacing Your Group**

Move quickly through “observation” leaving enough time for “reflection”, “discussion”, and “surrender.”

### **Scripture Reading**

Re-read the scripture passages as needed when you discuss the questions.

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### **Observation: *What does this scripture passage say?***

#### **Philippians 3:12-21**

1. What is Paul’s goal? (v12-14)
2. What is Paul’s warning and criticism? (v18-19)
3. Of what future hope does Paul remind the Philippians? (v20-21)

### **Reflection and Discussion: *What are some first thoughts flowing from the scriptures?***

#### ***Talk together about how the scriptures connect to everyday life.***

4. In these verses, Paul shares his tenacity for knowing Christ. Like the single-mindedness of an athlete in training, his challenge is to lay aside everything harmful and forsake anything that may distract from becoming an effective, vibrant, and focused Christian.
  - What holds Christians back from experiencing this single-mindedness and focus?
5. Christian maturity involves acting on the guidance that you have already received. We will always have the excuse that we still “have so much to learn,” but Paul’s challenge is for us to live up to what we already know and live out what we have already learned.
  - What truths from God’s word, will, and ways has He made clear to you that influence your daily life?
  - How did you come to receive and know these truths?
6. Many scriptures use race/exercise metaphors to magnify the time, dedication, energy, practice, and vision tied to engagement in the Christian life (1Cor 9:24-27, Phil 3:13-14, 1 Tim 4:7-10, 2 Tim 4:7-8).
  - Describe the “spiritual race” that we run here on Earth?
  - What “spiritual exercises” help us grow in faith and character?
  - What “good fight” do we participate in and “what reward” do we receive?

### **Surrender: Responding to God’s voice.**

7. What is one thing God is saying to you through this study and discussion?

**\*\* Take some time to pray for one another in response to what has been discussed today \*\***

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#### **We’re here!**

We would love to hear about how things are going in your small group!  
Reach out any time with questions, ideas, thoughts, or concerns.

Contact Care & Community Pastor, Michael Warren, (907) 646-4830, michaelw@changeportalaska.com