



bc

BIBLICAL  
CHARACTERS

**Paul**

Pastor Jeremy McGarity

## **Paul's Four Keys to Life**

**1 Corinthians 9:24-27**

### **1 PAUL HAD ASPIRATIONS**

*Don't you realize that in a race everyone runs, but only one person gets the prize? So run to win!*

**1 CORINTHIANS 9:24 (NLT)**

*The Lord... delights in the prosperity of His servant.*

**PSALM 35:27 (NASB)**

*Now all glory to God, who is able, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think.*

**EPHESIANS 3:20 (NLT)**

**Question #1:** What do I want most in life?

## 2 PAUL WAS F O C U S E D

*Therefore I do not run like someone running aimlessly; I do not fight like a boxer beating the air.*

1 CORINTHIANS 9:26 (NIV)

*An intelligent person aims at wise action, but a fool starts off in many directions.*

PROVERBS 17:24 (GN)

- You will live guided by P R I O R I T I E S or by P R E S S U R E S .

*...I bring all my energies to bear on this one thing forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead I strain to reach the end of the race...*

PHILIPPIANS 3:13b-14a (LB)

**Question #2:** What is the focus of my life?

## 3 PAUL WAS D I S C I P L I N E D

*Everyone who competes in the games exercises self-control...*

1 CORINTHIANS 9:25a (NASB)

*To win you must deny yourself many things that will keep you from doing your best...*

1 CORINTHIANS 9:25a (LB)

- **Compete:** Greek ἀγωνίζομαι · agonizomai: To strive fight and struggle

*Lazy people want much but get little while the (disciplined) are prospering.*

**PROVERBS 13:4 (LB)**

*"Discipline is choosing between what you want now and what you want most."*

**ABRAHAM LINCOLN**

**Question #3: Am I willing to pay the price?**

## **4 PAUL WAS D E T E R M I N E D**

*Like an athlete I punish my body, treating it roughly, training it to do what it should, not what it wants to...*

**1 CORINTHIANS 9:27a (LB)**

*I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.*

**PHILIPPIANS 3:14 (NIV)**

*...let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up... We do this by keeping our eyes on Jesus, the champion who initiates and perfects our faith... Think of all the hostility he endured from sinful people; then you won't become weary and give up.*

**HEBREWS 12:1-3 (NLT)**

**Question #4: What is holding me back?**

*Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever.*

**1 CORINTHIANS 9:25 (NIV)**

*With God we will gain the victory...*

**PSALM 60:12a (NIV)**

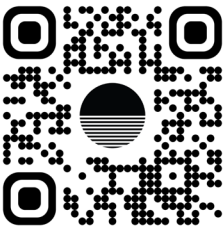


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## SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

- 1 What is something that stood out to you from the sermon and why?
- 2 What do I want most in life?
- 3 What is the focus of my life?
- 4 Am I willing to pay the price?
- 5 What is holding me back?
- 6 How can we be praying for you?



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## Upcoming Events

- 06.11 | Youth Sunday
- 06.12 | Summer Adventure Camp Begins
- 06.18 | Father's Day Car Show & BBQ
- 06.25 | Blood Drive at Rancho  
Classic Praise