

Devotional guide based on August 17th Sermon: Run to Win

Day 1: Running with Purpose Reading: 1 Corinthians 9:24-27 Devotional: Just as athletes train rigorously for their competitions, we are called to discipline in our spiritual journey. Paul's metaphor of running a race reminds us that faith isn't passive—it requires active engagement and focused effort. Today, reflect on your spiritual "training regimen." Are you consistently studying God's Word, praying, and fellowshiping with other believers? Remember, we're not running aimlessly, but toward the prize of eternal life in Christ.

Day 2: Eyes on the Prize Reading: Philippians 3:12-14 Devotional: Paul encourages us to press on toward the goal. In our Christian walk, it's easy to become distracted by worldly concerns. Today, meditate on what it means to keep your eyes fixed on Christ. What "prizes" of this world might be competing for your attention? Ask God to help you keep an eternal perspective, allowing His promises to motivate and guide your actions.

Day 3: Surrendering to God's Lordship Reading: Romans 12:1-2 Devotional: Paul urges us to present our bodies as living sacrifices, holy and acceptable to God. This act of surrender is our spiritual worship. Consider the areas of your life where you might be holding back from full surrender to God's lordship. Are there habits, attitudes, or relationships that you're reluctant to place under His control? Today, commit to surrendering one specific area of your life to God.

Day 4: Persevering in Faith Reading: Hebrews 12:1-3 Devotional: The author of Hebrews encourages us to run with endurance the race set before us, looking to Jesus as our ultimate example. Life's challenges can often feel overwhelming, tempting us to give up or lose heart. Reflect on the "cloud of witnesses" in your own life—those who have modeled faithful perseverance. How can their examples inspire you? Consider the joy set before Jesus that enabled Him to endure the cross. What eternal joys motivate you to press on in your faith journey? Today, ask God for the strength to persevere, fixing your eyes on Jesus and trusting in His sustaining grace.

Day 5: Running Together in Community Reading: Hebrews 10:24-25 Devotional: While our spiritual race is personal, we're not meant to run alone. The author of Hebrews reminds us of the importance of community in our faith journey. Reflect on your connections within the body of Christ. How are you encouraging others in their faith? Are you allowing yourself to be spurred on by fellow believers? Pray for opportunities to both give and receive support in your spiritual race.