



# **Finish Strong**

Hebrews 12:1-2

## Hebrews 12:1-2

- Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup> looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

# Don't Carry Too Much

- “...let us also lay aside every weight...”



# 1 Thess. 4:16-17

- “For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. <sup>17</sup> Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord.”

## Matt. 6:19-21

- “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, <sup>20</sup> but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. <sup>21</sup> For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

# Don't Be Tripped Up By Sin

- “...and sin which clings so closely...”
- “...a sin which readily or easily encircles and entangles the Christian runner, like a long, loose robe clinging to his limbs” --Vincent, M. R.



# Run With Endurance

- “...and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us.”
  - 1 Cor. 9:24; “Do you not know that in a race all the runners compete, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it.”



# Run With Endurance

- Nothing Else Matters....
  - Acts 20:24; But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.



# Run With Endurance

- The Goal...
  - Philippians 3:12-14; Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. <sup>13</sup> Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, <sup>14</sup> I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

# Run With Endurance

- Help Each Other...
  - Ecclesiastes 4:9-12; Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. <sup>10</sup> For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up! <sup>11</sup> Again, if two lie together, they keep warm, but how can one keep warm alone? <sup>12</sup> And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him—a threefold cord is not quickly broken.



# Watch Jesus

- “...looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith...”



# Get Back Up After You Fall

- You can finish strong if you just get back up after you fall!

## Isaiah 40:29-31

- “He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. <sup>30</sup> Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; <sup>31</sup> but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.”

## 2 Timothy 4:6-8

- “For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. <sup>7</sup> I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. <sup>8</sup> Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that Day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.”