

Fixing Our Eyes on Jesus

Scripture Reading — Hebrews 12:1-3

Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. — Hebrews 12:1-2

I am a long-distance runner, so these verses resonate with me. The analogy of running the race that God has marked out for us is something I can relate to personally.

As Christians, we are encouraged to get rid of whatever is hindering us from running a good race. We need to get rid of the sin that slows us down. As we run, we have to recognize that it is a marathon and not a sprint. It is not something that will be over in a few short minutes.

When you are running a long distance, it is easy to get discouraged and frustrated that you are nowhere near the finish line. Often you cannot even see the finish line from where you are. But as a runner, you need to keep your eyes on the road ahead. When you start to get discouraged and look elsewhere, you slow down, you begin to doubt you can finish, and you begin to struggle.

But when you keep looking forward to the finish, you remain focused. We are encouraged to “run with perseverance . . . fixing our eyes on Jesus.” He is the one who has perfected our faith. He is the one who suffered and died for us.

Whenever you get discouraged or frustrated—feeling like you want to quit—fix your eyes on Jesus. He will give you the strength to finish the race that is marked out for you.

Prayer

Lord Jesus, help us to keep our eyes on you so that we can run with perseverance the race you have marked out for us. Amen.

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