

# Dynamic Faith

## Finish the Course

World Outreach Church  
Sermon Discussion Guide  
Sunday Sermon: **March 30, 2025**



Growing our spiritual life takes intentionality. Are we running in such a way as to get the prize? Do we recognize the difference between what is temporary and what is permanent, or are we allowing our success to be defined by a culture that will pass away? Consider the things you are investing yourself in today—your efforts, thoughts, dreams, and aspirations. Do they build God’s Kingdom and your eternity with Him, or are they focused on temporal things? God delivered us through the cross of Jesus of Nazareth from a life of bondage to sin so the glory of His Kingdom could be revealed through us. Let’s run in such a way as to get the prize!

### I. QUESTIONS

#### A. Trending?

1 Corinthians 9:24-26 *Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? **Run in such a way as to get the prize.** <sup>25</sup> 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. <sup>26</sup> Therefore I do not run like a man running aimlessly; I do not fight like a man beating the air.*

John 19:30 *When he had received the drink, Jesus said, "**It is finished.**" With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.*

**\*Share a time in your life when you felt like you were not "running in such a way as to get the prize"? What did you learn about yourself? How could you support and encourage others in their faith journey toward the "prize"?**

#### B. When is Enough, Enough?

Numbers 13:1, 27 *The Lord said to Moses, "Send some men to explore the land of Canaan, which I am giving to the Israelites. From each ancestral tribe send one of its leaders ... <sup>27</sup> They gave Moses this account: We went into the land to which you sent us, and it does flow with milk and honey! Here is its fruit. But the people who live there are powerful, and the cities are fortified and very large.*

Numbers 14:1 *That night all the people of the community raised their voices and wept aloud. All the Israelites grumbled against Moses and Aaron, and the whole assembly said to them, "if only we had died in Egypt! Or in this desert! Why is the Lord bringing us to this land only to let us fall by the sword?"*

Mark 9:2-8 *After six days Jesus took Peter, James and John with him and led them up a high mountain, where they were all alone. There he was transfigured before them. <sup>3</sup> His clothes became dazzling white, whiter than anyone in the world could bleach them. <sup>4</sup> And there appeared before them Elijah and Moses, who were talking with Jesus. <sup>5</sup> Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters--one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah." <sup>6</sup> (He did not know what to say, they were so frightened.) <sup>7</sup> Then a cloud appeared and enveloped them, and a voice came from the cloud: "This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!" <sup>8</sup> Suddenly, when they looked around, they no longer saw anyone with them except Jesus.*

Luke 4:40-44 *When the sun was setting, the people brought to Jesus all who had various kinds of sickness, and laying his hands on each one, he healed them. <sup>41</sup> Moreover, demons came out of many people, shouting, "You are the Son of God!" But he rebuked them and would not allow them to speak, because they knew he was the Christ. <sup>42</sup> At daybreak Jesus went out to a solitary place. The people were looking for him and when they came to where he was, they tried to keep him from leaving them. <sup>43</sup> But he said, "I must preach the good news of the kingdom of God to the other towns also, because that is why I was sent." <sup>44</sup> And he kept on preaching in the synagogues of Judea.*

**\*How can Christians maintain their focus on the "finish line" (eternal life with Christ) despite challenges and setbacks?**

## II. OBSERVATIONS

A. You can't freeze time.

Hebrews 3:10-11 *That is why I was angry with that generation, and I said, 'Their hearts are always going astray, and they have not known my ways.'*<sup>11</sup> *So I declared on oath in my anger, 'They shall never enter my rest.'*"

B. Movement causes anxiety.

C. Growth is not optional (with the Lord).

D. The Cornerstone: The Benefit of Being "In Christ"

2 Peter 1:3-4 *His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness.*<sup>4</sup> *Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.*

1. He brought me out ... to bring me in!

1 Peter 2:9-10 *But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.*<sup>10</sup> *Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.*

2. God' provision is in His promises.

3. God's promises are my inheritance.

**\* We can't freeze time. Instead of dwelling on your past, what specific things can you do to make new memories and grow your faith in God in the days, weeks, and months to come?**

**\* What does it mean to "invest in the future" from a biblical perspective? How can you prioritize eternal investments over temporary ones?**

**\*How does being part of a community of believers contribute to growth as a disciple of Jesus?**

## III. PROMISES, PROMISES ...

A. Reward us for being faithful — Matthew 16:27

B. Never leave us comfortless — John 14:18

C. Turn our tragedies into triumphs — Romans 8:28

D. Never give up on us when we make mistakes — Philippians 1:6

E. Provide for all our physical and spiritual needs — Philippians 4:18

F. Give wisdom and guidance to those who ask — James 1:5

G. Put an end to all evil and death — Revelation 21:4

**\*What are some of God's promises that bring you comfort and hope?**

## PRAYER

Heavenly Father, thank You for Your great provision for my life. You have not left me alone or uncared for but have made me a participant in Your eternal purposes. You have called me out of darkness and provided for my justification. Help me to walk in the light and to choose paths of righteousness. Deliver me from evil and restore the joy of my salvation. In Jesus' name, amen.