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SKIPPER

The Christian Race

Heb 12:1-3 pg 252

Our life can be patterned like a race course, and all of us have been entered in the race.

F. The Course

A) It has boundries and we must stay within them to be eligible for the prize.

B) It is narrow

1) Mt 7:13-14 Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

C.) It begins at conversion and ends at death.

II. Things Necessary for Success in the Race

A.) Start

1) A good start is important, but does not guarantee ultimate success. Short race - life.

2) Gal 5:7 Ye did run well; who did hinder you that ye should not obey the truth?

B.) Proper training is necessary

1) II Tim 2:15 Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

C.) Zeal to win

1) Tit 2:14 Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.

D.) Persistence

1.) I Co 15:58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.

E.) Concentrated Effort

1.) Phil 3:13-14 pg 224 - Don't look back.

III. Hindrances - Hurdles

A.) The World

1.) I John 2:15-17 pg 266

B.) The Flesh - pain of running - practice.

1.) I Co 9:25-27 pg 194

C.) The Devil - other manners - Cares of World.

1.) I Thess 2:18 Wherefore we would have come unto you, even I Paul, once and again; but Satan hindered us.

IV. The Prize - Reward 1, 2, 3, LAST (Finish race).

A.) a crown of righteousness

1.) II Tim 4:7-8 pg 240

B.) a crown of life - Endurance

1.) James 1:12 Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.

C.) a crown of glory - Prize for the winner.

1.) I Pet 5:4 and when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

In the Christian race we have to run to the best of our ability. If we stumble and fall, we must pick ourselves up and finish the race. No one can run for us, we have to bear the "pain" of running ourself.

Are you running or are you watching the others run?

what prayer is not for
what it is
give some general instructions of prayer

Prayer

Mt 6:9-13 ~~Luke 11:1-4~~ pg 77

Jesus taught His disciples a manner of prayer.

I. Prayer is Not

A.) For sinners ~~as God does not hear them~~

1.) John 9:31 Now we know that God heareth not sinners: but if any man be a worshipper of God, and doeth his will, him he heareth.

2.) Prov. 28:9 He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer shall be abomination.

3.) I Pet 3:12 For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil.

B.) For Salvation

1.) Acts 2:38 pg 151 (receive Gift of Holy Ghost)

2.) Acts 22:16 And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.

3.) Mt 7:21 Not everyone that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.

C.) For Love

1.) John 3:16 pg 118-119 (For God so loved the world.)

2.) Rom 5:8 pg 196 (Christ died for us.)

D.) For Love (We have to be worthy of this love.)

1.) Titus 2:11-12 pg 269

(Grace of God --- appeared to all men.)

Prayer is not for sinners as God does not hear them.

Prayer is not for those who are not living as God has given us both instruction and salvation.

Prayer is not

Prayer is not:

E.) For self-righteousness

1.) Lk 18:9-14 pg 103 (God be merciful to me a sinner,)

should not be used to boast of self-righteousness

II. Prayer is:

A.) For Christians

For Christians as children of God.

1.) I Pet 3:12 For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil.

2.) James 5:16 Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

B.) Supplications & Thanks

For Supplication and Thanks - it is according to God's will.

1.) I Tim 2:1-2 I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; For Kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.

C.) To be in Faith

Prayer is

1.) Mt 21:22 And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall recieve.

2.) Mk 11:24 Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye recieve them, and ye shall have them.

Prayer is D. To be According to His will

1.) I John 5:14-15 pg 300

Prayer is to be in the Name of Christ

E.) To Be in the Name of Christ

1.) John 14:13 And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

2.) Col 3:17 And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

III. General Instructions

Prayer is to be in secret (unseen) and not with vain repetitions

A.) Pray in private

1.) Mt 6:5-6 pg 8

B.) Do not use Repetitions

1.) Mt 6:7-8 pg 8

c.) Pray for those that Persecute You

1.) Mt 5:44 pg 8 (keeping hot coals off their head)

2.) Acts 7:59-60 pg 159 (Stephen stoned)

D.) Have a habit of prayer

Pray for Christians everywhere →

1.) Eph 6:18 Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

2.) I Thess 5:17 Pray without ceasing.

E.) Pray for all Men

1.) I Tim 2:1-2 pg 261 (repeat)

F.) Pray everywhere

1.) I Tim 2:8 pg 261

Personal Instruction

G.) Pray in Worship
1.) acts 2:42 pg 151
2.) acts 12:5 pg 165
} Prayer is an item of worship

IV. The Model Prayer

A) This should be called the model prayer rather than the Lord's prayer as Jesus could not pray for forgiveness of sins, because he did not sin.

B) In the model prayer is included reverance for God, loyalty to God, dependence upon God, penitence toward God and trust in God.

1.) Jesus taught Mt. 6:9-13 pg 8 & 9
2.) Reverance - verse 9 Hallowed be thy name
3.) Loyalty - verse 10 Thy will be done
4.) Dependence - verse 11 Give daily bread
5.) Penitence - verse 12 forgive
6.) Trust - verse 13 thine is the kingdom and the power, and glory for ever.

V. Positions in Prayer

A.) On Face
1.) Mt 26:39 pg 39
B.) Kneeling
1.) Lk 22:41 pg 110
2.) Acts 7:59-60 pg 159
3.) Acts 9:40 pg 162
} Jesus prayed on face and while kneeling
Repeat Stephen kneeled
Peter kneeled

Position in Prayer

C.) Standing - Jesus spoke of standing in prayer.

1.) Lk 18:9-13 pg 103 (repeat) two people in temple

2.) MK 11:25 And when ye stand praying, forgive if ye have aught against any: that your father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses.

D.) Mind

1.) Col 3:12-14 pg 253

The important thing is the position of the mind,

when someone else is ~~praying~~ offering a prayer, does your mind wander off to something else?