

RUN TO WIN

1 CORINTHIANS 9:24-27

RUN WITH SELF-CONTROL (V.25)

- A. The runner in the ancient games strived to exercise self-control over many things.
 - 1. His eating habits.
 - 2. Drinking habits.
 - 3. Sleeping habits.
 - 4. And his training habits.

- B. We must exercise self-control (Col. 3:1-17).
 - 1. Submit to the instruction of our trainer.
 - 2. Implement self control by putting off some things.
 - 3. Strengthen our self control by putting on some things.
 - 4. Our self control is to be complete and continuous.

RUN WITH A GOAL IN MIND (V. 26)

- A. The early Olympic games had one event—a footrace.
 - 1. A 200 yard lap or run, a stone pillar making the finish line.
 - 2. The runner blocked-out distractions.
 - 3. He fixed his eyes on his goal and redouble his efforts.

- B. We need to run with a goal in view (Heb. 12:1-3).
 - 1. We need to block out all distractions.
 - 2. We run a marathon not a short sprint.
 - 3. We too have a fixed goal.
 - 4. We do not run alone.

RUN WITH EFFECTIVENESS (V. 26-27)

- A. Ancient boxers used leather wraps.
 - 1. The idea was to hit your opponent, but not get hit.
 - 2. If you were hit, you were not effective in evading a blow.
 - 3. If you missed, you were not effective in landing a blow.
 - 4. Ancient boxer strived to be effective in.....

- B. We need to run our race effectively (Phil. 3:7-14).
 - A. Place Christ first in your life.
 - B. Develop a relationship with Christ.
 - C. Press, press, press toward the goal.