



“Letters to the Corinthians” Study Notes

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Lesson 18: Run the Race, Don't Trip the Other Runners

1 Corinthians 9:13-27

Read Hebrews 12:1-2. Remembering the faithful saints who have come before us, thanks to the sustaining hand of God, what things should we do to run our race? How should we run our race? Where should our focus be, as we run? What has Jesus done that should give us hope? With what attitude did He do these things?

Read Philippians 3:8-15. What does Paul value most? How do you know this? What is his goal? What does he look forward to? Why does he press on? What prize does he seek?

Read 1 Peter 2:1-8. What characteristics should not be seen among God's people? By whom was Jesus chosen? Who rejected Him? Like Him, what have we become? To those who do not believe, Jesus and the hope of the Gospel is what type of rock?

Read Romans 9:32-33. What type of stone was laid? Why is this important to know?

Read 1 Peter 3:13-16. What should we not fear? In our hearts, how should we consider Christ? In light of THAT, what are we to be prepared to do? How are we to do this?

Ladies, the Gospel is already offensive to those who are perishing. We should be always ready to give an answer for the hope we have, but our answer should be consistent with Jesus as our Lord. There is no need to give our response in a manner that adds additional offense, but we should strive to respond with grace and respect. If we are to be careful in sharing our hope with those outside the body, how much more should we be considerate of those INSIDE the body of Christ?

Read Romans 6:15-16. Because of the grace extended to us through Christ, are we free to sin? What master should we serve? What does that mean?

Read Romans 5:3-5. What strange thing do we rejoice in? Why? Is our hope a vain one?

Read 1 Thessalonians 5:14-15. What urgings does Paul give here? What warning does he give? In the context of the church of Corinth, what might these urgings/warnings have looked like, if they were put into practice? What might these urgings/warnings look like in your life?

As you spend time with God today, ask God to help you to examine yourself. What freedoms might you be exercising without appropriate concern for your brothers and sisters? What rights are you holding on to that might prevent you from sharing the Gospel or practicing hospitality with those outside of Christ?

Ask God to show you where your pride might be getting in the way of your own growth in Him, and where your pride might be impacting the growth of others as well. Are you running the race to win the prize, while ignoring every other runner? What might you do, in your life, that might aid your fellow runners in their race? What helps might you need from other runners? Ask God to help you to see where you might need someone to come alongside you, and ask Him how you can come alongside others.