

“Swifter. Higher. Stronger.”

Five Things Every Christian Needs To Grow

1 Corinthians 9:24-27

The Scriptures gives us a challenging command: “Run that you may obtain [the prize]” (1 Cor. 9:24b). Like Olympic athletes from the nations who gather under the Olympic motto “*Citius. Altius. Fortius*” believers are called into a competition. “Being a Christian is not an acquired skill or discipline like diving or ice skating. It is a living, vital relationship with the God of the universe, a relationship that begins when a person becomes a new creation in Him and receives Jesus by faith. But like Olympic athletes, Christians are called upon to train, to make sacrifices, and to embrace certain disciplines in order to give God ‘our utmost for His highest.’” (*Five Things*, 2). Will you be fervent in your determination, motivation, and preparation to serve the King of kings and Lord of lords?

I. Run to _____ (1 Cor. 9:24-27)!

- 1) Like the Olympian, we ought to _____ one another’s _____.
- 2) We _____ for a “crown of righteousness” (2 Ti. 4:7-8) that is _____.
- 3) Is your life _____, or are you under _____ and practicing _____?
- 4) A real _____ will come to those who _____ of the Christian life.

II. _____ forward (Phil. 3:12-16)!

- 1) Consider the jaw-dropping _____. Does your life model _____?
- 2) Sanctification is always _____, but press on toward God’s _____.
- 3) Employ the language of _____ and _____ in your life.
- 4) Achieve high _____ in preparing for the _____ of _____ in grace.

III. _____ On The _____ (Isaiah 40:28-31)!

- 1) Athletes never perform _____. Our Creator does not _____.
- 2) Commit yourself to _____ on the LORD, and keep _____!
- 3) As we study, may the Lord grant you _____!

Application: Obtain *Five Things Every Christian Needs To Grow* to train young believers.