

# **“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.