

Run the Race, Don't Lose Your Place

Where is your heart today? Where is your mindset? There is so much going on in the world today, it is easy to lose your focus and determination for the things of God. Have you lost your place in the rat race of life?

Many have gotten on the wheel of life, just making it through life and to church, which has become mere entertainment rather than a place of true worship. True worship will transform you into God's likeness.

Each day we are given a new chance to start afresh in the things of God. It is time to let the past go and embark on a new journey in the things of God. He never changes. He is always the same. Yet He ever desires us to be more like Him and His character.

Is your mind set on the things of God or on the world and its trappings? Even good things can become a trap if our treasures are not stored up in heaven. We need to put on tender mercies every day, and then the world will see the love of God as we go along our paths of life.

"Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do. But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection" (Col. 3:12-14).

God does not look at race, economic status or DNA, but He looks to see if His Son is in our hearts. The author of Colossians wrote "put it on," which shows it is a choice—tender mercies, love, kindness, forgiveness is a choice.

Each morning we get up and we put clothes on; what we choose to wear today is a choice. And if you didn't put clothes on and left home, you would suffer the consequences of *not* dressing.

Each Christian has a free will and you can choose as much or as little of God as you desire. Your life will be full or it will be empty of God. When you go along in life and lose your place, it may be because you did not fill your mind, will and emotions with the Word of God and His fruit. So how much of God are you going to "put on" today?

Many Christians start out with great intentions. Maybe you started out well but now seem hindered from running the race with God as your partner. I love NASCAR. But I never hear the drivers at the beginning of a race say, "We're out here to lose." No, they are all optimistic about winning.

Who stopped you from getting to the finish line? "You ran well. Who hindered you from obeying the truth?" (Gal. 5:7).

We do not love, show tender mercies, and forgive by feelings; we do it by faith! Make a choice today to live as if it was your last, and you will see love grow in ways you never thought possible. "Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth" (Col. 3:2).

When you set your mind on things above, you make a difference for His glory and build His kingdom. The world and those around you will know you love them more by your actions than your words! In life's race don't lose your place in God, His love and most of all, His family!

Adapted from "Selahs from God" by Sheila Zellers, copyright 2012, published by Creation House. This book is a collection of devotional thoughts that will empower and encourage you to connect with God on a daily basis. To order a copy, click on this link:



PRAYER POWER FOR THE WEEK OF 6/18/2012

This week set your mind on things above so that you can make a difference for His glory and build His kingdom. As you enter into summer ask the Lord how to redeem your time and accomplish all He has planned for you to do. As the days are extended, extend your time with Him, enjoy His presence and refresh your soul. Continue to pray for the nation and the upcoming elections. Pray for those suffering loss of provision through unemployment, loss of homes and businesses through raging fires, tornadoes, lightning strikes and floods, and loss of loved ones through war and crime. Cry out for God's people to see the signs of the times, humble ourselves, seek His face and turn from *our* wicked ways so that He may heal our land. Pray for repentance, revival and restoration of all that the enemy has taken through lethargy. Continue to lift up Israel. Col. 3:2, 12-14; Gal. 5:7; Chron. 7:14

To enrich your prayer life and learn how to strategically pray with power by using appropriate scriptures, we recommend the following sources by Apostle John Eckhardt: Prayers that Rout Demons, Prayers that Bring Healing, Prayers that Release Heaven on Earth and Prayers that Break Curses. To order any or all of these click here.