

Basics, Battle, Race

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I. Introduction.

II. The basics are still the basics. (Exodus 34:2)

- A. We must not forget to present ourselves before God just as we are.
- B. God wants our presence.
- C. We will improve in ideas and concepts, but simplicity in Christ is key.

III. The battle is still the battle. (Acts 4:32)

- A. Intimidation, divisiveness and selfishness are constant struggles.
- B. When you feel threatened, pray.
- C. The Devil is committed to looking for our weaknesses. We are to be united as a body of Christ. (1 Samuel 14:6-7, 1 Corinthians 1:10)
- D. If you want to travel far, travel light. We accumulate too many things.

IV. The race is still the race. (Hebrews 12:1-2)

- A. We are to be patient with God. (Psalm 89:46)
- B. We are to be patient with our co-workers. (Acts 21:17-26)
- C. We need to be patient with our spouses. (1 Peter 3:5-8)
- D. We need to be patient with our children.
- E. We need to be patient with ourselves. We are in the process of being made like God's Son. (Philippians 1:6, 1 Timothy 6:17)

Application questions:

1. What does it look like to present ourselves before God? Explain.

2. Why is it important to recognize that the Christian life is a battle?

3. What does it mean to be patient with ourselves?
