

A Man of Faith

Skip Gray

I. Introduction.

A. Text: Hebrews 12:1-2.

B. We must run with patience the race set before us.

II. Running.

A. This is one of the favorite New Testament expressions.

B. It is a picture of progress.

C. It is hard work. (I Corinthians 9:3)

1. There is a price.

2. There is fatigue.

D. Running is synonymous with obedience. (Galatians 5:7)

1. In a sense, there are no unimportant decisions in life.

2. Lot's later failures all started with a lack of respect for his uncle. (Genesis 13, Deuteronomy 3:24-26)

III. Patience

A. This is calm and uncomplaining endurance under pain and provocation.

B. Anything that is worthwhile and endures takes time. (II Corinthians 3:10, Acts 16)

IV. Race.

A. This is the course of life—circumstances.

B. Life is not a spectator's sport.

C. God is in control of all the events in your life. (Genesis 50:20, Psalm 75:6-7, Hebrews 12:14-15)

V. Conclusion. Run with your eyes fixed on Jesus.

Application questions:

1. How does the New Testament picture of running help us to have a broad understanding of the Christian life?

2. What areas of life could you use more patience? Explain.

3. How can we be encouraged in knowing that all the events of life are under God's control? Explain.
