

Disqualified

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: I Corinthians 9:24-10:13.

B. For Paul life was like a race.

II. We are to run the race in order to be a pleasing instrument to God.

A. This was Paul's main objective.

B. God put you in the place you are so that He might use you.

III. Discipline is necessary that God might use you.

A. We are not only to avoid bad things but indulgences that might hinder our spiritual goals.

B. The Christian needs both discipline and dependence.

C. Paul remembers that at the end of his life, everyone will look at what you did for Jesus Christ—life means service and giving oneself for the cause of God.

IV. It is possible to be disqualified.

A. God will turn off the power to your ministry. (Hebrews)

1. We are protected, and guided as Christians.

2. We are baptized into Christ identifying with Him.

3. We are all strengthened by Christ.

4. However, even in light of this we can all be disqualified.

B. Four danger points to watch.

1. Watch out for indulging in idols.

2. Do not indulge in fornication.

3. Beware of presumptuous blaming of God.

4. Do not grumble or complain.

C. We are fighting a battle and we must not forget it.

V. With temptation, God provides the way of escape.

- A. Testing is common to all.
- B. Testing has controlled pressure—it is not beyond our limits.
- C. Testing has conquering grace through the way of escape—dependence.

Application questions:

1. What is the relationship between discipline and dependence?

2. What does it mean to be disqualified and how might a minister become so?

3. With what temptations do you struggle? How will you better be able to respond in light of the message?
