

RUNNING THE RACE

SUMMER READING PLAN

Thankfully you don't have to be an athlete of any kind to run the Christian "race." The Bible uses running metaphors, however, to encourage followers of Jesus to train, focus, persevere and attain the heavenly prize. Use this Summer Reading Plan to strengthen your faith and your relationship with Jesus. Complete one square each day or every other day.

START

Mile 1

Read Philippians 1
Re-read verse 6 and consider how your faith journey is a work in progress.

Mile 2

Read Philippians 2
Re-read verse 5 and pray to have the same attitude as Jesus.

Mile 6

Read Colossians 2
Review verses 6 and 7, make a gratitude list and say a prayer of thanks to God.

Mile 5

Read Colossians 1
Re-read verse 11. Name three specific ways God gives you strength and endurance.

Mile 4

Read Philippians 4
Write verse 13 on a sticky note and place it where you'll see it daily.

**Rest Day!
Take a break**

Mile 7

Read Colossians 3
Look back at verses 23 and 24. What keeps you running for God, not for other people or for personal awards?

Mile 8

Read Colossians 4
Write a note or letter to someone who needs encouragement.

Mile 10

Read 1 Timothy 2
Re-read verses 5 and 6. Offer praise to Jesus for paying the price for our sins and for running the race perfectly for us.

Mile 11

Read 1 Timothy 3
What aspects of staying "above reproach" are most challenging for you as a follower of Jesus?

Mile 9

Read 1 Timothy 1
Doodle about how God's law keeps you from wandering away from him.

Mile 13

Read 1 Timothy 5
Anonymously do a kind deed for someone in your family or neighborhood.

Mile 12

Read 1 Timothy 4
As you exercise, ponder verse 8 and brainstorm ways to build your spiritual muscles.

**Continue
Your Race
on the back**

KEEP GOING... YOU'RE ALMOST THERE!

Mile 14

Read 1 Timothy 6

Review verses 11 and 12. In what ways might faith be viewed as a fight? Who have you told your love for Jesus about?

Mile 15

Read 2 Timothy 1

Describe specific ways your life reveals a spirit of power, a spirit of love and a spirit of self-control.

Mile 16

Read 2 Timothy 2

Re-read verse 5. The next time you participate in or watch a sporting event, compare the value of God's "reward" to earthly achievements.

Mile 17

Read 2 Timothy 3

Add a daily Bible-reading time to your daily routine.



Mile 19

Read James 1

Look at verse 12. Reflect on how God has kept his promises to you. How does that help you during tough times?

**Rest Day!
Take a
break**

Mile 18

Read 2 Timothy 4

Memorize verse 7. Think about people you know who "run the race" well. How can their examples strengthen you?

Mile 20

Read James 2

Put your faith into action today by meeting someone's needs.

Mile 21

Read James 3

Re-read verses 17 and 18. Pray for godly wisdom as you continue your faith journey.

Mile 22

Read James 4

Review verse 8. Confess your sins to God and ask him to come near you.

Mile 25

Read John 20:1-18

Consider how the good news of Jesus' resurrection gives you reasons to run and share the Gospel message.

Mile 24

Read Luke 15:11-32

When have you run away from God? What brought you back? When have you seen proof of God running toward you?

Mile 23

Read James 5

Re-read verse 19 and think of ways to reach out to people who have wandered away from God.

Mile 26

Read 1 John 1

Read verse 7 again. Write "Walk in the Light" on a sticky note, and place it by a light switch or lamp.

Mile 26.2

Read Revelation 2:10

Praise God aloud: "Come, Lord Jesus!"



WAY TO GO !!