

**Matthew 13:44** *Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field.*

- There is an incorruptible crown available. Let's live to obtain it.

## 5. Paul realized that because of these things, he must live life on \_\_\_\_\_.

**I Corinthians 9:26** *I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air*

- If I'm going to live for the eternal, it must be something that I do on purpose.

## 6. Paul understood that how we order ourselves in this life has a direct impact on our eternal \_\_\_\_\_.

**I Corinthians 9:27** *But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection*

**As we look to 2019, let's live it on purpose, with a purpose. The prize will be well, well worth it!**

# Live Twenty Nineteen on Purpose

**I Corinthians 9:24-27** *Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain. 25 And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible. 26 I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air: 27 But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.*

**Philippians 3:13-14** *Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, 14 I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.*

- This time of year, many are thinking about resolutions and the new year.
- As we look to 2019, let's ponder why are we going to do the things we will do, and why are we living the way we will live for the 12 months, 52 weeks, and 365 days that begin 12 days from today.
- Paul allowed his "resolutions" to be guided by one thing: the day He would stand before the Judgment Seat of Christ. Simply put, Paul ordered the affairs of his life based on eternity.

# What did Paul realize about our race?

## 1. Paul realized that each race has a starting point, and an \_\_\_\_\_ point.

**I Corinthians 9:24** *Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize?*

**II Corinthians 5:10** *For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.*

- Paul understood that this race will one day end.
- When we ponder the end point of our race, and the brevity of life, we'll order our lives in light of eternity.

## 2. Paul understood that there is a \_\_\_\_\_ to be obtained.

**I Corinthians 9:24** *Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain.*

**II Timothy 2:4-5** *No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier. 5 And if a man also strive for masteries, yet is he not crowned, except he strive lawfully.*

- Simply running doesn't warrant a prize. I must run (strive) lawfully. Those that will win find the qualifying factors for the race in God's word, and guide our lives by these.

**Matthew 13:44-46** *Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field. 45 Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls: 46 Who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it.*

- There's a prize so great, in heaven, that those who really understand it are willing to give their lives in its pursuit!

## 3. Paul realized that those that will be rewarded must practice \_\_\_\_\_

**I Corinthians 9:25** *And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things.*

- \_\_\_\_\_ = showing moderation or self-restraint

**Hebrews 12:1** *Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,*

## 4. Paul understood that this is a spiritual race, not a \_\_\_\_\_ one

**I Corinthians 9:25** *Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible.*

- Corporate companies and people in the sports world are striving for a corruptible prize, but they give themselves to it! Our prize is much better. It is eternal.