

LET THE JOURNEY BEGIN

SUNDAY MORNING, 01.19.20
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TITLE: REACHING FORTH WITH FOCUS

“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, ² Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. ³ For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself; lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds.” (Hebrews 12:1-3)

INTRODUCTION _____

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1. The _____ of Focus

A. Lay Aside the _____

Quote: “Is the thing a weight, or is it a wing? Is it that which speeds you on your course or does it hold you back? Weights are not necessarily external: they are first of all in the heart...”

but the moment a thing gets a place in my heart and mind which is not in God's mind for me, it becomes a weight, no matter what it is."—Newell

"All things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any." (1 Corinthians 6:12)

B. Lay Aside the _____

"I was also upright before him, and I kept myself from mine iniquity." (Psalm 18:23)

"That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts;" (Ephesians 4:22)

C. Resist the _____

"And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; ⁴ And patience, experience; and experience, hope: ⁵ And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us." (Romans 5:3-5)

2. The _____ of Focus

A. He Is the _____ of our Faith

B. He Is the _____ of our Faith

HE PROVIDED OUR REDEMPTION

"Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins." (John 4:10)

HE PROVIDED OUR MEDIATION

"Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession. ¹⁵ For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶ Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need." (Hebrews 4:14-16)

3. The _____ of Focus

A. _____ His Suffering

“Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.

³ For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.

⁴ When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.” (Colossians 3:2–4)

HIS ENDURANCE

“Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.” (James 1:12)

THE CONTRADICTION OF SINNERS

“He came unto his own, and his own received him not.” (John 1:11)

“The world cannot hate you; but me it hateth, because I testify of it, that the works thereof are evil.” (John 7:7)

B. _____ Your Mind

“For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day.” (2 Corinthians 4:16)

CONCLUSION _____

“Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall: ³¹ But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.” (Isaiah 40:30–31)