

## QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Why are we encouraged to “run” the Christian race and not “walk” it?
2. Is the Christian race a sprint or a marathon?
3. How should we run the Christian race?
4. How do we prepare for this race?
5. What does it mean to be temperate in all things?
6. How can we overcome temptation?
7. How can we be victorious?

### SUMMARY:

All run in a race but only one receives the prize, but in the race—the Christian life—all may win “the prize of the high calling of God.” God gives each one a memory to learn from past experience whereby “*He may put aside the weight of sin that doth so easily beset us.*” Keeping in memory what Christ Jesus has done for us, let us hold fast the profession of faith, “*for God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able, but will with the temptation also make a way of escape*” through which we may enter and find victory.

### NOTES:

## APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #12

September 16, 2007

Third Quarter

### VICTORIOUS LIVING

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**LESSON TEXT:** *1 Corinthians 9:24 through 10:13*

**LESSON SETTING:** Paul writes to the church of Corinth from Philippi.

**TIME:** The New Testament was written in the first century.

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**I. MAINTAINING THE MASTERY.** 1 Corinthians 9:24-27

- A. Pressing toward the goal. Philippians 3:14
- B. Stripping for the contest. Hebrews 12:1
- C. The home stretch. 2 Timothy 4:7
- D. The prize won. 2 Timothy 4:8

**II. LEARNING FROM THE PAST.** 1 Corinthians 10:1-12

- A. A way provided. Romans 6:3; Galatians 3:27
- B. Sin’s penalty. Genesis 3:19; Romans 6:23
- C. Self-confidence. Proverbs 28:26; Matthew 26:33

**III. TRUSTING FOR VICTORY.** 1 Corinthians 10:13

- A. Temptation. Hebrews 2:18; James 1:2, 3, 12
- B. Divine Faithfulness. 1 Corinthians 1:9; 1 Peter 4:19
- C. Deliverance. Psalm 91:3; 2 Timothy 4:18

**GOLDEN TEXT:** *THE LORD KNOWETH HOW TO DELIVER THE GODLY OUT OF TEMPTATIONS, . . .*

2 Peter 2:9

**NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON:** Malachi 3:7-12; 2 Corinthians 9:5-15

**SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES:** Luke 16:1-13

**QUARTERLY THEME:** The Bible and The Christian Life

**TOPIC:** GIVING TO GOD

**INTRODUCTION:**

“Giving to God” what does it actually mean? Frequently we hear it referred to as giving money. In reality “Giving to God” means giving our all to Him so that He can do with it as He pleases. It means laying our very life, hopes, desires, ambitions, and material things at His feet. Can we with Isaiah say, “*Here am I, send me*”? Even as Elijah, Jonah, the disciples, Paul and others gave Him their lives, of which He could make useful vessels, we too must give ours if we wish to give to God.

The fruit developed within us by the Holy Spirit must also be given. If we give our worldly wealth but withhold our love, it “*profiteth us nothing.*” But Jesus said if we forsake all and give ourselves to Him, our reward would be thirty, sixty, and a hundred fold.

We should give our time, talents, and money at His disposal and surrender so completely that we can understand what He wishes us to do with them. He can through us put them to use. This puts all responsibility upon Him and in this way we are not subject to errors and failures. He will do with us what is best in His sight.

**CENTRAL TRUTH:** We are under the highest obligation to use our money, time and talents to the glory of God as He directs.

**GOLDEN TEXT:** *HE WHICH SOWETH SPARINGLY SHALL REAP ALSO SPARINGLY: AND HE WHICH SOWETH BOUNTIFULLY SHALL REAP ALSO BOUNTIFULLY.* 2 Corinthians 9:6

In the Old Covenant Law of Moses, the Israelites were expected to bring a specified portion of the support of temple worship. Besides this, God added His blessing to anything that they freely offered for their needed fellowmen. “*Cast thy bread upon the waters, for thou shalt find it after many days.*” (Ecclesiastes 11:1)

In the New Covenant day of grace it is much the same, yet with this difference. Because of the love of Christ in our hearts, we should always be ready to share with others the gifts God has bestowed upon us. When Paul writes of reaping according to our sowing, he does not primarily refer to material gains. The greatest blessing that we can reap is to know that through our gifts we are helping to extend the grace and love of God and in so doing that same grace and love of God is multiplied to us. “*And by their prayer for you, which long after you for the exceeding grace of God in you.*” (2 Corinthians 9:14)

**DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF September 17 - 23**

M. Reward of Stewardship. Proverbs 3:1-10  
T. \*Giving to God. Malachi 3:7-12; 2 Corinthians 9:5-15  
W. Stewardship of Trust. Matthew 25:14-30  
T. Faithfulness in Stewardship. Luke 16:10-15  
F. Principles of Stewardship. 1 Corinthians 4:1-8  
S. The Grace of Stewardship. 2 Corinthians 8:1-9  
S. Stewardship of Grace. 1 Peter 4:1-11