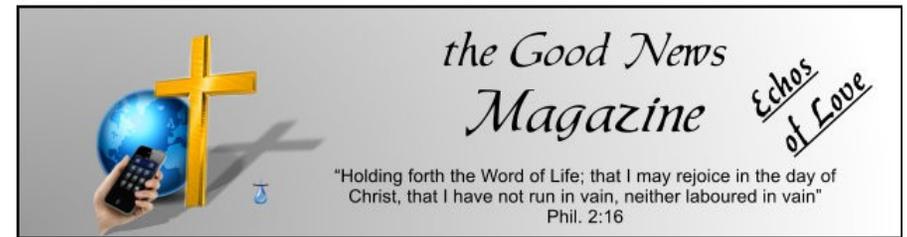


seek the Lord while He may be found, pray for you without ceasing, and share the Good News of Jesus Christ. In closing, Luke 9:23-24 sums it up beautifully,

*And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: but whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it.*

**Run the race, meet the goal, and finish the race with a “Well done, thou good and faithful servant!”**

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## How Will You Finish?

by Jerry & Debbie Senese

There are two types of people in this world.

1. The type that begin something with full ambition to complete what they began to the best of their ability.
2. Those who enter into something because it interests them at the time, but then begin to lose interest and fizzle out. I'm sure we all know examples of each kind. However, let's throw the third type into the mix. Those who enter into something with an ulterior motive and only do as much as necessary to just get by.

Whether you're a child who is in school working to get good grades, an adult in the work force trying to work up the corporate ladder, or a Bible Believing Born Again Christian

trying to live for the Lord, we should all have the same goal; To finish the best we are able to, giving it all we've got!

But we need guidance and instruction to be able to do this...and even then, we're going to mess up and make mistakes. But the important thing is to learn from those mistakes, and continue to grow from there learning to conform our heart which is born in flesh, to be more Godly. We can't do the molding, but we must be willing to allow our hearts to be molded in such a fashion that we can begin to bring our body, soul, mind & spirit under subjection to the things of the Lord. Just one way of doing that is to learn what is expected of us, and start from there.

1 Cor. 10:6-10 tells us,

*Now these things were our examples, to the intent we should not lust after evil things, as they also lusted. Neither be ye idolaters, as were some of*

**The Most Important Question of Your Life...**

**If you died tonight, do you KNOW if you'd go to heaven?**

**The Easy Steps to KNOW for Sure:**

**== A == Acknowledge you are a sinner**  
ALL have sinned and come short of the glory of God. Romans 3:23

**== B == Believe the shed Blood of Jesus Christ is the only way to be saved.**  
The wages of sin is death\* but the GIFT of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. Romans 6:23

**== C == Confess to God you know you are a sinner and call upon Him to come into your heart.**  
For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. Romans 10:13

*them; as it is written, The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play.*

*Neither let us commit fornication, as some of them committed, and fell in one day three and twenty thousand.*

*Neither let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed of serpents. Neither murmur ye, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer.*

The above passage of scripture was written about those people who followed Moses out of Egypt. They were basically in the wilderness for 40 years. Yet re-reading the passage, look at all the trouble they were able to get into with just themselves, in a wilderness, with the Lord God leading them! How much MORE evil and wickedness is set before our eyes today? That being said, is it not fair to say that temptation is great at this time, more so than it was then? It is the Lord's intent that we train ourselves to turn our hearts against all evil things!

Gal. 5:16-17 reads,

*This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the*

*lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.*

It does not come normal to us to want to do good, we have to struggle against the sin nature we were born with and as mentioned above, allow our hearts to be molded by the Lord to want to do good.. As a matter of fact, our flesh fights back against the Holy Spirit. That's why bringing our mind under subjection is so important.

To us, this seems almost impossible. But the Lord is so good, and He tells us exactly how this can be accomplished in us, through Him;

*Gal. 5:24-25, And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.*

We need to allow the Holy Spirit to do His work in us, and through obedience and the transformation that takes place after yielding our life to

Christ, we're able to walk in the spirit gaining strength as we go.

Col. 3:1-5a gives us further assistance in our desire to finish the race in such a way that is pleasing to the Lord and striving to obtain the Goal of A Christian Life;

*If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God. When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory. Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth;*

*Mortify* literally means "to make dead". So in other words, the things that are of the Lord are the things which will bring you life...the things which are of the world, will only lead to death...physically and spiritually. We are fully capable of living the Christian life as the Lord desires us to.

The problem is, we choose not to. We make unwise decisions that put us in places we ought not be, look at things we ought not place before our eyes, go to places we should prevent ourselves from going to and end up making those unwise choices which lead us down a path of frustration, depression, guilt and sin. We are capable, with the Lord's help, to live the Christian Life if we so desire, but we get distracted. We take our eyes off the Lord and loose our way.

Dear friend, please don't feel we don't share the same struggles together, because we do. However, it is out of love for you and for the Lord, that we encourage you to

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The above is an echo of love from the July 2015 edition of the Kenya-USA magazine: The Good News Magazine. The full edition, including a word search puzzle and more God-honoring articles are at:

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