**Rules for the Race**
Philippians 3:12-16

Introduction: I Corinthians 9:24 & 14:20

If your part of the growing process is like a race – what are the rules?

**I. Rule # 1 – Don’t Think You’ve Arrived – v12-13.**

A. How do you become perfect? – Matthew 5:48

 1. Perfect = \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

 2. What are God’s resources to help you mature in Christ?
 - Ephesians 4:11-13

B. So – Paul P\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ O\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ after maturity so he could
 grasp hold of it – v12 & Acts 9:1-19

**II. Rule # 2 – Don’t Look Back – v13-14.**

A. What did the Lord say about people who look back? – Luke 9:62

B. Paul’s example to us:

 1. Paul F\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ his past experiences – v13.

 2. Paul kept the G\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in mind – v14 & Hebrews 12:1-2.

 3. God doesn’t reserve the prize for a winner, but for

 everyone who C\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the race.

4. What is your incentive for running?

 5. What is the prize?

**III. Rule # 3 – Don’t Quit – v15-16.**

A. Continue to seek God’s direction in your life through the

W\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ - v15 & Hebrews 6:1.

1. In Matthew 5:48 the Lord tells you to become
 mature in your faith.

2. In Hebrews 6:1, you are told H\_\_\_\_\_\_ to become
 mature in your faith.

3. In v15 here, tells you to C\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in your
 spiritual journey.

B. Let your life radiate your maturity in your C\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ - v16.

 1. It’s like pushing upstream against the current.

 2. How does this relate to spiritual warfare?

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