

**“GOIN’ FOR IT!”
PHILIPPIANS 3:12-14**

In Philippians 3:12-14 we can see 4 characteristics from Paul’s life that can help us as we seek to pursue Christ wholeheartedly and **Go for it!**

Paul relates these 4 characteristics through the image of a race...

I. _____: v. 12 *not that I have already obtained it...*

A serious athlete is never satisfied with past performance...

Don’t compare your running with others...this is a sign of immaturity

Early on...look at others

As you grow...look at self

When you are mature...look only to the Pacer (Jesus)

II. _____: v. 13 *one thing I do...*

Psalm 27:4 *One thing I desired of the Lord, that will I seek after...*

Successful athletes specialize...they concentrate on one main sport or event.

They are committed to that event and do all within their power to be the best...they pursue excellence.

Jeremiah 29:13 *You will seek me and find me if you seek me with all your heart!*

III. _____: v. 13 *Forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead.*

Isaiah 40:31 *Those who wait on the Lord will renew their strength...*

Winning runners keep moving...they know where they are going and don’t dwell on the past or look too far down the road.

IV. _____: v. 14 *I press on...*

I Corinthians 9:25-27 *Everyone who competes in the games must go into strict training...*

If you are going to succeed as an athlete you must **work out**. You are not going to be able to compete at a meaningful level simply by reading about the sport, listening to lectures, or watching movies... You must get into the game and **do it!!!**

James 1:22 *Do not merely listen to the word...do what it says!*

Quitting is always easier than enduring, but it sure isn’t as satisfying!

Question: What things are keeping you from goin’ for it with God?

- **Have you become lulled into complacency?**
- **Is your life too cluttered?**
- **Are you looking backwards...lost your direction...or hit the wall?**

Be determined to press on and know the Lord...appropriate the power!

Concluding thought: God has reserved the most fulfilling & exciting assignments for those who are willing to risk all and totally abandon themselves for the cause of Christ...to **Go for it!!!** (2 Chronicles 16:9)

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