

Is Your Life Heading In The Right Direction ?

A steady pace in the right direction will lead us to right goal in time.

But if our life is aimed at the wrong goal, speed will only take us further astray in a shorter time.

All too often in life today we find ourselves in what we admit is the “*fast lane*”, this gives even greater importance to direction.

In the Christian way of life the vital thing is NOT speed but direction.

God is more concerned with where we are headed rather than how fast we are travelling.

In God’s ‘**Handbook for Life**’ [the Holy Bible] life is likened to a race, but it is more of a marathon than a sprint.

1 Corinthians 9:24 [NIV] *“Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize.”*

We are all runners in life with a limited time to obtain our goal.

Hebrews 12:1 [King James] *“... let us run with patience the race that is set before us.”*

The run we are on in life is a lifelong marathon, so our pace must be steady, and persistent, in the right direction.

1 Corinthians 9:26-27 [Message Bible] *“I don’t know about you, but I’m running hard for the finishing line. I’m giving it everything I’ve got. No sloppy living for me! I’m staying alert and in top condition.”*

The marathon runner has to be totally dedicated to the task in hand and be sure of the direction they are taking.

Galatians 5:7-8 [Message Bible] *“You were running superbly! Who cut in on you, deflecting you from the course of obedience? This detour doesn’t come from the One [God] who called you into the race in the first place. And please don’t toss this warning off as insignificant.”*

In the Christian race of life there will be those who do not want us to reach the goal we have been set. Even a slight detour could cost us the prize at the end of the race, or we could get so lost that we do not ever reach the winning post.

The Christian life, just like a person training for a marathon, **is a completely different way of life.** A life that is dedicated only to attaining the goal set before us, and it will seem very strange to those who knew us before.

1 Peter 4:4 [Message Bible] *“You’ve already put in your time in that God-ignorant way of life, partying night after night, a drunken and profligate life. Now it’s time to be done with it for good. Of course, your old friends don’t understand why you don’t join in with the old gang anymore. But you don’t have to give an account to them, ... but God Himself.”*

What then is the direction that our marathon run in life should take?

Proverbs 18:10 [Living Bible] *“The Lord [Jehovah the self-existent God] is a strong fortress. The Godly run to Him and are safe.”*

Matthew 6:31-33 [NIV] *“So do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.”*

The goal we have at the end of our race as Christians is different to the rest of people. We seek to be part of the Kingdom [created family] of God. We are running towards the Creator God.

This loving God will then provide all we need in life without our making it our goal.

1 Corinthians 9:25 [NIV] *“Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will **not** last; but we do it to get a crown that will last for ever.”*

The goal we seek to attain is eternal life.

What is eternal life?

John 17:3 [NIV] *“Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.”*

Eternal life is to know God the Father and Jesus Christ His Son. The Greek word translated “know” indicates a very intimate relationship, such as that between a husband and wife.

How is this brought about?

John 14:15-18 [NIV] *“If you love me, you will obey what I command. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counsellor to be with you for ever, the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.”*

The Counsellor, the Spirit of Truth, referring to the Holy Spirit, will travel with us on our marathon.

This close relationship will become gradually more intimate.

- 1 Know the Holy Spirit.** That is be aware of His existence.
- 2 The Holy Spirit lives with us.** We will be in constant contact with Him.
- 3 The Holy Spirit will be in us.** He will create in us a new being as we totally submit to His Will. A new being that will be acceptable to the Holy Creator God and able to live in His Presence for ever.

This is the only eternal goal for our lives and towards that one goal is the direction our lives should be taking.

Mine is, how about yours?