

PLAYING FOR KEEPS, NOT FOR FUNZIES

PASTOR TIMOTHY GREEN

1 Cor 9:24-27 Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain. And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible. I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air: But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.

Paul lets us know in this passage what he is involved in. He's not just out jogging through life. He's not just shadow boxing. He understands that there is a race to win and a fight to the finish.

Some people just want to go through the motions. Jogging and shadow boxing is good enough for them. But people who have that mind set will not win the prize.

We are supposed to be fighting the good fight of faith. We are supposed to be serious about what we are doing and the life that we are living.

This Christian walk is not just a stroll through the park of life. There is a final destination that we hope to reach and to reach it, we have to be serious about living for God.

Living for God is serious business. It's not for funzies, it's for keeps!

A lot of people start out living for God but somewhere along the journey, they lose out. They get weary running the race. They get tired of fighting the fight. They wanted to enjoy the fun but whenever the road got rough and the race got serious, they decide that the prize wasn't worth the effort.

God never said that life would be easy but He did tell us that His grace would be sufficient. He does tell us that we can make it as long as we depend upon Him.

2 Tim 4:6-8 For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.

Are you playing for keeps or for funzies?