



"I have fought the good fight. I have finished the race. I have kept the faith."
2nd Timothy 4:7

The 34th Summer Olympic Games will be held in Los Angeles, California in July 2028. For two weeks, the eyes of many will be focused on the athletes who gather there to compete for an Olympic medal. What the eyes of the world are not focused on at present is the athletes' preparation and training – the behind-the-scenes work that is necessary to allow them to succeed in their event.

The modern Olympics have their roots in the games held in ancient Greece. Athletic competition was known in the Mediterranean world of the first century AD. Thus, the Apostle Paul used the metaphor of a "race" in describing the Christian life (Acts 20:24; 1st Corinthians 9:24). And like athletes, the hard work of the Christian life is done behind the scenes – in the discipline of prayer, Bible study, service, and spiritual obedience. Running the race requires endurance and laying aside the sin that "so easily entangles us." (Hebrews 12:1)

Just as athletes begin each day with the finish line in mind, so we must cultivate that same perspective in our daily walk of faith. How hard are you 'training' for your eternal reward? I encourage you to 'keep the faith – finish the race.'

Pastor Godfrey