

Daily Devotional, November 23, 2021 Striving to do Our Best—to do God's Will

Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. 1 Corinthians 9:24

The technician that heads each worship service walks tests each microphone and the speaker system before each worship service. He or she is responsible for making sure the amplifier is turned on, that the microphones are working, that the volume is set at a comfortable level, and that all speakers are operational. When the system is functional, the church service can proceed as normal.

Each of us is tested every day. Did we dress correctly for the day's activities? Did we review our assignment correctly to carry out our work for the day? An important meeting with your supervisor? A salescall on a customer? Do you know where you are going and what your time schedule is? Do you have your paperwork finished and ready? Are you in the right frame of mind to face today's challenges?

These are normal daily activities, and we learn as we go through life how to plan our daily activities and to meet our obligations. We also make every attempt to teach our children how to accomplish these tasks so they will be prepared for adulthood when that time comes.

However, we must acknowledge that we and our children, in all probability will face unexpected difficult and challenging circumstances along our journey through life. For example, did you know that Beethoven was deaf, that Homer, the Greek poet, was blind, and that the author Louisa May Alcott, the author of Little Women and many other popular novels, was told by an editor that she had no writing ability? Do we have the strength to face adversity? Are we teaching our children to be steadfast in their efforts?

I suggest that we also need to ask ourselves some key questions that will help us to evaluate our personal and religious lives. Each of us need to develop the habit of answering these questions each day. Questions such as: Is there something I did yesterday for which I need forgiveness? What am I thankful for this day? What would God want me to do today? For whom shall I pray today?

Christ did not come to us to eliminate life's problems. He came to create a foundation that will help us build character with which to face life's challenges. I wish you God's speed today as you navigate your way through

Prayer: Lord, I am grateful for the blessings of this day, for life, for health, and for all things good. Forgive me for the times when I have spoken or acted in a way that was improper and not acceptable in your sight. In Christ's name I pray. Amen.