

PERSEVERANCE

A person is running on a track at night. The scene is illuminated by warm, orange-toned lights, creating a dramatic and focused atmosphere. The runner's legs and feet are visible in the foreground, showing motion. In the background, a chain-link fence runs across the frame, and the track's lane markings are visible on the ground.

in the Christian Race

Isaiah 40:28-31

Isaiah 40: 31

31 Yet *those who wait for the LORD will gain new strength; they will mount up with wings like eagles, they will run and not get tired, they will walk and not become weary.*

A low-angle, close-up shot of a person's legs and feet as they run on a track at night. The scene is illuminated by a warm, orange-red light, likely from stadium lights. The runner's feet are in mid-stride, and their shadow is cast on the track surface. The background shows the curved lanes of the track.

Luke 21:19

“In your perseverance you will possess your souls.”

Definition:

“To continue *steadily and firmly in a pursuit*, especially in the face of opposition, to *endure . . .*”

HOW SHOULD WE RUN?

Run to win!

“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” (1 Cor 9:24-27).

RUNNING FOR THE PRIZE

1 CORINTHIANS 9:24-27



HOW SHOULD WE RUN?



Run With Determination

A photograph of a male runner in a white singlet and dark shorts, captured in a starting crouch on a blue running track. The runner is leaning forward with his hands on the ground and feet in starting blocks. The track has white lane markings. The background shows a blurred stadium environment with a blue and white striped pattern.

“This one thing I do” (Phil 3:13)

HOW SHOULD WE RUN?

Run so you are forward
looking. 

“Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize” (Phil 3:13b-14).

HOW SHOULD WE RUN?

Run with discipline.

- “Everyone who competes in the games exercises *self-control* in all things. . . .
- “I *discipline* my body and make it my slave” (1 Cor 9:25-27).

HOW SHOULD WE RUN?

Run with confidence.

“Therefore I run in such a way, as not without aim; I box in such a way, as not beating the air.” (I Cor 9:26-27).

HOW SHOULD WE RUN?

Run with perseverance.

“Throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance (patience) the race marked out for us” (Heb 12:1)

A blurred image of a runner in a blue shirt and black shorts running on a track. The background is a checkered pattern of squares in various shades of brown and tan. The text 'GREAT ENDURANCE' is overlaid in large, bold, orange letters with a black outline. Below the text is a horizontal bar composed of small squares in various colors (blue, white, yellow, red, green) that ends in a large white arrow pointing to the right.

GREAT ENDURANCE





RUNNING THE RACE OF GRACE

MARATHON

HEBREWS 12:1-2

How should we run?

- Run Looking to Jesus!

“Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame (Heb 12:2).

How Do We Avoid Becoming Weary?

- Must realize it is a self-imposed condition.
 - Jesus: *“My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow.”*
 - *“Abba, Father, everything is possible with you”* (Mark 14:34-36).

How Do We Avoid Becoming Weary?

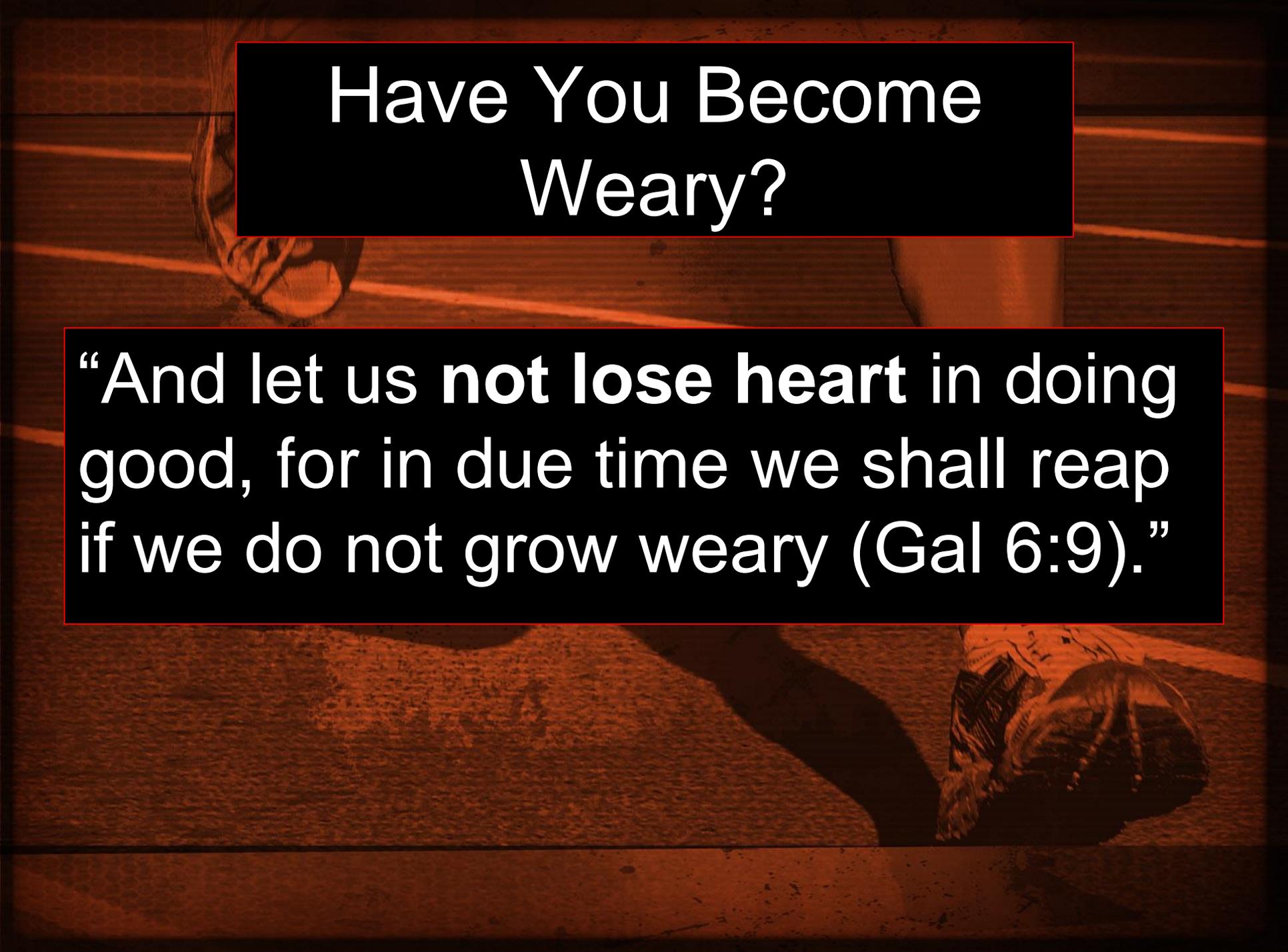
- Must learn to depend upon God as the ultimate source of strength.
 - Paul’s trials as a minister (2 Cor 11:25-30).
 - “When I am weak, then I am strong” (2 Cor 12:10).

How Do We Avoid Becoming Weary?

- **Realize the 3 D's are tools of Satan.**

- Discouragement + Despair =
Depression.

- The Christian armor – no room for
retreat (Eph 6: 11-17).



Have You Become Weary?

“And let us **not lose heart** in doing good, for in due time we shall reap if we do not grow weary (Gal 6:9).”

The Key to Perseverance is FAITH (Heb 11:1;6).

- We need a **Big Faith....**
 - We must plan **BIG**, & think **BIG** because we serve **A BIG GOD!**
 - “**I CAN** do all things through Christ” (Phil 4:13).

The Key to Perseverance is FAITH (Heb 11:1;6).

- We need a **Big Faith....**
 - Our only limitation is the size of our FAITH (Rom 4:19-22).
 - True Faith is not just starting good but ending well! **PERSEVERING!**

Have Three Choices!

1. Stop building— quit!
2. Stop growing – become stagnant. *Comfortable...*
3. **PERSEVERE** – Continue building, growing, working!

PERSEVERANCE

- 31 Yet *those who wait for the LORD will gain new strength; they will mount up with wings like eagles, they will run and not get tired, they will walk and not become weary. (Isaiah 40: 31)*