

VOICE OF THE VISION

Running the Race of Faith

Hebrews 12:1-3 (NKJV)

Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. For consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls.

Introduction

Am I running, walking, standing, stumbling, or quitting the race?

Background

• So great a cloud of witnesses (v. 1a)

- It is composed of more than just the 18 specifically mentioned in Hebrews 11.

- That cloud includes great men and women of God who have come since Hebrews 11, known and unknown to history.

- Heroes of faith in the past: their faithfulness is a constant encouragement that surrounds us.

- These witnesses are not witnessing us as we conduct our lives. Instead, they are witnesses to us of faith and endurance in all they have lived and experienced.

- We do not struggle alone, and we are not the first to struggle with the problems we face.

- Others have run the race and won, and their witness stirs us to run and win also.

As believers of Christ, we need to run the race set by God before us:

I. Lay aside.

A. Every weight that hinders us (v. 1b): these keep us from running effectively.

1. Mind's thoughts – no plan, self-centered plans, "no one sees," bad past, busyness, "next time"
2. Heart's desires – no desire, self-centered desires, materialistic
3. Mouth's words – no word, negative words

B. Sin that easily ensnares us (v. 1c): from the ancient Greek word "euperistaton," which can be translated as "easily avoided," "admired," "ensnaring," or "dangerous."

1. Mind's thoughts – self-centeredness, envy, laziness, doubts, pride, self-glory, idols
2. Heart's desires – ungratefulness, love of money, greed, hatred, lust, unforgiveness
3. Mouth's words – lies, gossips, "paninira," curses, broken promises, broken covenant

II. Run with endurance.

Endurance is translated from the ancient Greek word "hupomone," which does not mean the patience which sits down and accepts things, but the patience which masters them. It is a determination, unhurrying and yet undelaying, which goes steadily on and refuses to be deflected.

A. Our race is set by God before us (v. 1d).

1. Race, from the ancient Greek term "agona," is a word used for conflict or struggle of many kinds.
2. We must run this race, and it will involve effort and commitment. Being passive never runs or wins a race. God wants us to run the race and

to finish it right.

Philippians 1:30

having the same conflict which you saw in me and now hear is in me.

1 Timothy 6:12

Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.

2 Timothy 4:7

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

B. Run to get the prize.

1 Corinthians 9:24

Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it.

Philippians 3:13-14

¹³Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, ¹⁴I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

continue on page 8 >>



Rev. Morrell B. Estrellado
Associate Pastor

BIBLE RACE FEATURE

Sama-samang pagtuklas sa Salita ng Diyos

Mga Awit 119:105, "Salita Mo'y isang tanglaw na sa akin ay patnubay, sa landas kong daraanan, liwanag na tumatanglaw."

Sa paggunita ng Bible Month tuwing Enero, ang panambahan ay nagdaraos taon-taon ng Bible Race sa UCF Mt. Tabor Church Re-Creation Center. Layunin ng programa na ipaalala at bigyang diin ang kahalagahan ng Salita ng Diyos sa buhay Kristiyano ng bawat isa.

Samu't saring mga palaro at aktibidad ang inihahanda na hindi lamang nakakapanabik, kung hindi ay magsasanay at makadadagdag ng kaalaman patungkol sa Salita ng Diyos. Oportunidad din ito upang ang mga miyembro ng panambahan at ang kanilang mga mahal sa buhay ay kanilang makasama sa kagalakan at kapayapaan ni Hesus.

Ngayong taon, ang UCF Bible Race ay gaganapin sa Enero 28-29, Martes hanggang Miyerkules, sa Mt. Tabor. Narito ang mga kaganapan na dapat abangan sa Bible Race 2025.

Fellowship

Tawanan, kumustahan, at pagmamahalan ang tiyak na mararanasan ng bawat isa. Hindi mawawala sa gawain ang masasarap na pagkaing inihahanda para pagsalo-salohan. Higit sa katawang busog, ang bawat isa ay puno ng saya at pasasalamat na makasama ang kanilang pamilya sa Panginoon.



Bakas sa ngiti at tawa ng bawat isa ang kagalakang makasama ang kapatiran sa programang ito.



Higit na napagtitiyay ang pagsasamahan ng bawat isa kung saan kanilang naibabahagi ang pagmamahal na kanila ring nararanasan sa Diyos.

Ephesians 2:12-13 (NKJV)

¹²That at that time you were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. ¹³But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

Amazing Race

Ang pagkakaisa at kaalaman ng bawat grupo sa Bibliya ay masusubok sa nakakapanabik na *Amazing Race*. Sa pag-ikot sa iba't ibang parte ng Mt. Tabor, ilang mga pagsubok ang nakaabang sa mga kalahok na hindi lamang kakailanganin ng pisikal na kalakasan, kung hindi pati karunungan sa Salita ng Diyos.



2015

2016



2018

2019

Ipakita ang inyong mga angking galing, talino at pagkakaisa upang mapagtagumpayan ang mga nakahandang pagsubok at palaro.



2021

2022



2023

Ihanda ang mga sarili na libutin ang iba't ibang parte ng Mt. Tabor para sa nakaka-engganiyo at kinaaabangang *Amazing Race*.



2024

2022

Buong lakas at talinong maghanda at makiisa sa mga palarong tiyak na susubok sa inyong mga pisikal at mental na kakayanan.

This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which enters the Presence behind the veil.

Hebrews 6:1
(NKJV)

Relay Games

Masasayang mga palaro at relay game ang naghihintay para sa lahat ng dadalo sa Bible Race 2025. Kasama ang inyong mga pamilya ay inyong tatahakin ang malawak na lupain ng Mt. Tabor sa inaabangang *Amazing Race* na siyang susubok sa inyong pisikal na pangangatawan at maging sa inyong kaalaman tungkol sa Salita ng Diyos. Bata ka man o matanda, tiyak na ikaw ay masisiyahan sa mga gawaing ito.



Halina't sumama at gumawa ng masasayang mga alaala kasama ang inyong kapatiran sa Panginoon!



Pagod man sa pisikal pero ang puso ng bawat isa ay puno ng kagalakan sa pagsasamang ito.



Tunay na ang pag-ibig ni Hesus ang Siyang nagbubuklod sa mga anak ng Diyos.

Romans 8:24-25
(NKJV)

²⁴For we were saved in this hope, but hope that is seen is not hope; for why does one still hope for what he sees? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we eagerly wait for it with perseverance.

Torch and Banner Parade

Bilang isang panambahan ay sama-sama nating idedeklara ang mga pangako ng Panginoon sa ating mga buhay. Dala-dala ang mga torch at banner, buong lakas tayong lalakad nang may pagtitiwala sa Diyos na tapat sa Kaniyang mga pangako.



Madilim at matarik man ang daan ay buong tapang na magma-martsa ang bawat isa para sa Panginoon.



Wala nang ibang kagalakan pa kapag kasama mo ang pamilya ng UCF sa pagpupuri at pagsamba sa dakilang Diyos. Ito ay isang magandang oportunidad upang ang lahat ay makalapit sa Panginoon, marinig ang Kaniyang Salita at mataniman ng binhi ng pananampalataya.

Praise and Worship



Asahan mong sa pagtapak mo pa lamang sa lugar ng Mt. Tabor ay tiyak mong mararanasan ang presensiya at pag-ibig ng Diyos.



Tunay na sa bawat pagtitipon at bawat pagpupuri ng mga mananampalataya ay naroon ang Diyos sa kanilang kalagitnaan.

³Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. ⁴Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.

Philippians 2:3-4
(NKJV)

Photobooth

Muling balikan ang masasayang ala-ala sa gaganaping Bible Race at magpakuha ng inyong larawan kasama ang inyong mga mahal sa buhay sa photobooth. Maaring ninyong imbitahan ang inyong mga kapamilya at kaibigan dito matapos ang mga gawain sa bawat araw ng programa.



Pami-pamilya ang imbitado sa darating na Bible Race kung saan may pagkakataong magsama-sama ang bawat isa..



Ito rin ang naging daan upang ang ilan sa ating mga kapatid sa Panginoon ay makakilala kay Hesus.



Magkita-kita tayo sa dalawang araw na puno ng kasiyahan at damahin ang presensiya ng Diyos sa darating na Enero 28-29!



Galatians 6:2
(NKJV)

Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

Paggawa para sa kapurihan ng Panginoon

Muling pagbubukas ng Music Clinic



Isa sa vision at mission ng UCF ay bigyan ng pagkakataon ang mga miyembro at manggagawa na matuklasan at magamit ang kanilang talento mula sa Panginoon. Sa pamamagitan ng *Music Clinic*, nahuhubog ang talento ng mga nais matutong tumugtog ng instrumento tulad ng gitara, drums at keyboard.

Ginanap ang unang sesyon ng *training* ng gitara at keyboard noong Enero 4. Ito ay isang pagkakataong maghusay higit lalo sa pag-aalay ng papuri at pagsamba sa ating Diyos sa mga susunod na gawain. Sa kasalukuyan, tumatanggap parin ang *Music Clinic* ng mga bagong mag-aaral na interesado at may pagsisikap na matuto.

Hakbang ng pakikiisa sa gawain ng Diyos

Bilang pagpapatuloy sa kanilang lakad ng *membership class* noong Enero 5, sa UCF Mt. Tabor Church. Bilang mga anak ng Diyos, itinalaga tayo sa panambahan kung saan tayo ay maaaring lumago sa pananampalataya at buhay espirituwal.



Matapos talakayin ni Rev. Estrellado ang kaakibat ng pakikiisa sa panambahan ng UCF matapos na sila ay makatanggap sa Panginoon, sila ay nagdesisiyong tumuloy sa pagsunod sa kalooban ng Diyos sa pagdalo sa *Membership Class*.

NEWS BRIEF



Rev. Tabay assists the scholars in creating their TESDA accounts for online activities.

Opportunities for career growth

UCACOA, in partnership with TESDA and the office of the generous Hon. Gustavo "Gus" Tambunting, continuously provides free short-course training. UCACOA held its orientation for the new batch of Training for Work Scholarship Program (TWSP) scholars in Bookkeeping NC III last January 2, Thursday.

UCACOA TVET Focal Rev. Ryan Christian Tabay spearheaded the orientation by welcoming the students to the training program. He ensured that students are well-guided and informed from schedules and briefing of class lessons, up to the competencies they have to acquire.

Praise God for using UCACOA to train people and become productive members of our community!

Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Hebrews 12:2 (NKJV)

Running the...

>> from page 1

III. Look unto Jesus.

This means fixing our eyes on Jesus. We can only run the race as we look to Jesus and have our eyes locked on to Him. He is our focus, our inspiration, and our example.

A. Jesus is the author and finisher of our faith (v. 2a).

Philippians 1:6

being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ;

B. Jesus endured the hardship.

1. Jesus endured the cross (v. 2b).

- Jesus kept His tongue.
- Jesus kept His course.
- Jesus kept His progress.
- Jesus kept His joy.
- Jesus kept His love.

2. Jesus despised the shame (v. 2c).

- Jesus bore a shameful accusation: blasphemy.
- Jesus bore shameful mocking.
- Jesus bore a shameful beating.
- Jesus wore a shameful crown.
- Jesus wore a shameful robe.
- Jesus bore a shameful mocking even as He prayed on the cross.

3. Jesus sat down at the right hand of the throne of God (v. 2d).

- This speaks of Jesus' glorification.
- The same promise of being glorified (though in a different sense) after our shame is true for the Christians.

C. Will makes you not grow weary

and lose heart (v. 3b).

John 16:33

"These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."

1 Thessalonians 5:23-24

²³Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴He who calls you is faithful, who also will do it.

Challenge

As we start a new year, do not limit God to work in your life, family, neighbors, soul-winning, and ministries. Let us start or continue to run the race of faith set by God before us:

- Laying aside unnecessary things: weights and sins
- Running with endurance until you get the prize
- Looking unto Jesus always until Jesus Christ's second coming

SERMON NOTES

Write the points to remember from the sermon as you seek God in your life.



BIBLE RACE

2 CORINTHIANS 5:17

January 28-29, 2025 (Tue-Wed)
at Mt. Tabor Church Re-Creation Center
Regular Rate: Php 1,500 (9 yrs. old above)
Php 1,000 (4-8 yrs. old)
Free (0-3 yrs. old)
(Inclusive of food, accommodation, shirt and cap)

Kindly register to your fellowship leaders



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UCF MT. TABOR CHURCH
 Purok 1, Brgy. Casile, Cabuyao, Laguna

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE
 9:00 AM (Parañaque)

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE
 3:00 PM (Cabuyao, Laguna)

HOUSE OF PRAYER
 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

HOME BIBLE CHURCH & STUDY
 Monday - Thursday
 Laguna and Cavite Areas

Scan these QR codes
 to watch the replays of the
UCF Sunday Worship Services.



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