



Choosing by Faith to run the Race 5-day Bible reading plan and devotional guide

Day 1: The Cloud of Witnesses

Reading: Hebrews 11:1-12:2

Devotional: We are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses—faithful men and women who finished their race despite overwhelming obstacles. Abraham, Moses, and countless others chose faith over fear, obedience over comfort. Their testimonies remind us that God equips those He calls. Today, reflect on the spiritual giants in your own life—perhaps a grandmother who prayed faithfully, or a friend who stood firm in trials. Their examples aren't meant to intimidate but to inspire. God chose them, and He has chosen you. Whatever assignment He has given you, remember: you have what you need through the Holy Spirit working within you. The question isn't whether you're capable, but whether you're willing.

Day 2: Laying Aside Every Weight

Reading: Hebrews 12:1-3; 1 Corinthians 9:24-27

Devotional: Athletes remove every unnecessary weight before competing. Similarly, God calls us to identify and remove the weights hindering our spiritual race. These aren't always sinful things—they might be good things that have become distractions from God's best. Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal what's holding you back. Is it bitterness? Unforgiveness? A relationship that pulls you away from your purpose? Perhaps it's busyness masquerading as productivity. Paul disciplined his body to keep it under control, refusing to let the flesh dictate his obedience. Today, make a conscious decision to lay aside one weight. Don't wait for God to forcefully remove it—willingly surrender it and experience the freedom that comes from running unhindered toward your divine assignment.

Day 3: Looking Unto Jesus

Reading: Philippians 2:5-13; John 15:16

Devotional: Jesus endured the cross for the joy set before Him—and that joy was you. While we were yet sinners, Christ died. His sacrifice wasn't just for salvation but to empower us to finish our race. You didn't choose Him; He chose you, knowing everything about you before calling you. This means He believes you can accomplish what He's assigned. When discouragement comes, fix your eyes on Jesus, the author and finisher of your faith. He's not asking you to do anything He hasn't already empowered you to do. The same Spirit that raised Christ from the dead lives in you. God is working in you both to will and to do His good pleasure. Your responsibility isn't to manufacture strength but to surrender to His working within you. Look to Jesus today and find renewed strength.



Day 4: Enduring for the Crown

Reading: 2 Timothy 4:6-8; James 1:12

Devotional: Paul declared confidently, "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." His reward awaited—not just for him, but for all who love Christ's appearing. The crown of righteousness isn't earned through perfection but through perseverance. Finishing the race doesn't mean never stumbling; it means getting back up and continuing forward. Some assignments take seven years, like sharing Christ with a resistant coworker. Others require daily faithfulness in small, unseen moments. God records every act of obedience, every prayer offered, every word of witness shared. Don't grow weary in doing good. The reward is real, and it's eternal. Today, recommit to your assignment. Whatever God has called you to do, determine in your heart: "I will finish this race. I will receive my crown."

Day 5: Running with Purpose Today

Reading: Jeremiah 29:11; 1 Peter 3:15

Devotional: Each morning presents a new opportunity to run your race intentionally. Begin your day asking, "Holy Spirit, who do You have on my list today?" Approach life with expectancy, believing God will use you for His purposes. He has plans to give you hope and a future, and those plans include divine appointments with people who need what you carry. Someone needs to hear your testimony, see Christ reflected in your life, or receive encouragement only you can give. Don't disqualify yourself because of past failures or present weaknesses—God chose you knowing everything about you. Like Samson, Jonah, and Moses, flawed people can fulfill divine purposes. The difference is choosing willingness over reluctance, joy over obligation. Today, be all in. Run your race with purpose, knowing you're chosen for such a time as this.