

One Can Make A Difference



Summer Series based on Hebrews 12:1-3

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.”

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Three Things to Remember

1. Consider Them

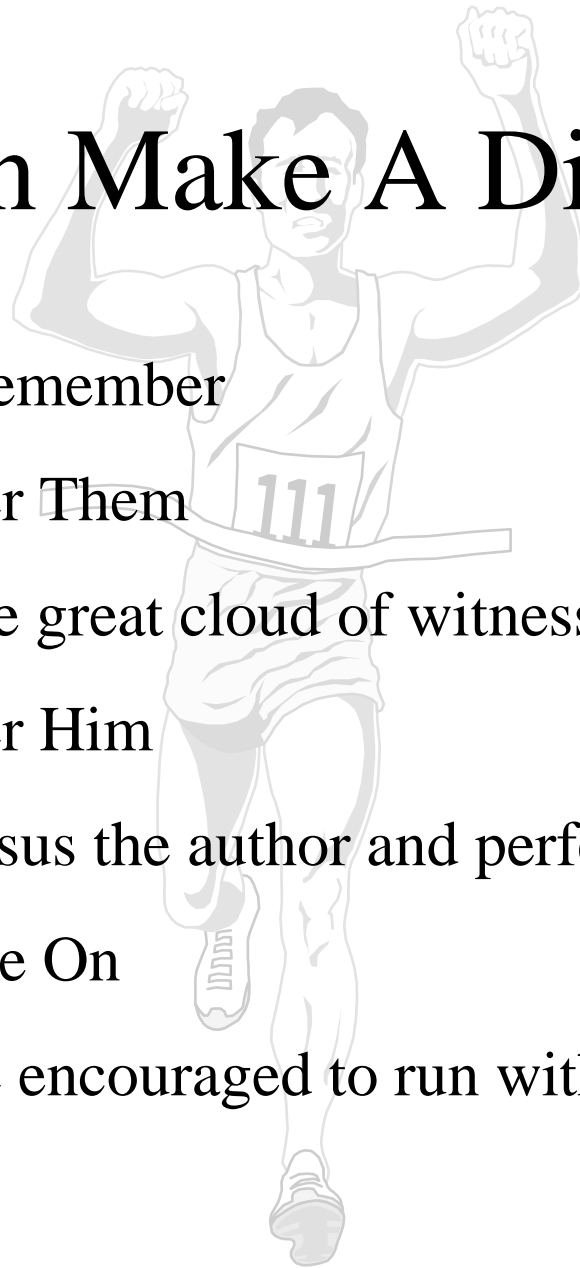
- the great cloud of witnesses

2. Consider Him

- Jesus the author and perfecter of our faith

3. Continue On

- be encouraged to run with vigor the race



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One Lap With Noah:

- Account of his life found in Genesis 5:29 - 10:32
- Name means - 'rest'
- Was 950 years of age when he died
- First ship builder of all time
- Lived in a time of great wickedness
- Noah walked with God

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“The Lord saw how great man’s wickedness on the earth had become, and that every inclination of his heart was only evil all the time. The Lord was grieved that he had made man on the earth, and his heart was filled with pain. So the Lord said, ‘I will wipe mankind, whom I have created, from the face of the earth - men and animals, and creatures that move along the ground, and birds of the air - for I am grieved that I have made them. But Noah found favor in the eyes of the Lord. This is the account of Noah. Noah was a righteous man, blameless among the people of his time, and he walked with God. Noah had three sons; Shem, Ham and Japheth. Now the earth was corrupt in God’s sight and was full of violence. God saw how corrupt the earth had become, for all the people on earth had corrupted their ways. So God said to Noah, I am going to

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“put an end to all people, for the earth is filled with violence because of them. I am surely going to destroy both them and the earth. So make yourself an ark of cypress wood; make rooms in it and coat it with pitch inside and out. This is how you are to build the it: The ark is to be 450 feet long, 75 feet wide and 45 feet high. Make a roof for it and finish the ark to within 18 inches of the top. Put a door in the side of the ark, and make lower, middle and upper decks. I am going to bring floodwaters on the earth to destroy all life under the heavens, every creature that has the breath of life in it. Everything on earth will perish. But I will establish my covenant with you, and you will enter the ark - you and your sons and your wife and your sons’ wives with you. You are to bring into the ark two of all living creatures, male and female, to keep them alive with you.....Noah did everything just as God commanded him.” 6:5-22

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1. When You Are Ready!

- not 'able' or 'in the right space' or 'available'
- When you are **right** or **useable!**
- Noah - righteous, blameless, walked with God, found favor in God's sight.
- note the surroundings of Noah
 - 6:5 - *every inclination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil all the time*

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1. When You Are Ready!

- God uses people who are daily doing the right things
- Walk with God in the ordinary - and he will do the extraordinary through you!

2. When You Are Responsive!

- 6:22, 7:5 - *“Noah did everything just as God commanded him”*
- Consider the request

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2. When You Are Responsive!

- Consider the request
 - build a boat one and a half football fields in length, four stories tall, with a ratio six times as long as wide, on dry land away from water.
 - make it ready for animals, two of every kind, and be prepared to live on it with your wife, son's and sons' wives
- God will often ask more than you can deliver alone!

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2. When You Are Responsive!

- Noah had to build with the knowledge of God's intent. 6:13
- It involved extended family, friends, stuff etc.

3. When You Are Relying!

- you need to be ready, responsive and relying to make a difference for God
- not relying on experience, feelings, emotions, others, wealth, support

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3. When You Are Relying!

- Relying on God to keep his word, and undertake
- imagine how overwhelming the task
 - size of project, materials, workers, etc
 - animals - how would you do this?
 - feed and care for humans and animals
 - steering or seeing where you are going
 - closing the door!

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3. When You Are Relying!

- You will only make a difference in your world as you step out in faith allowing God to provide in every way!

Here is the gate, I must go By the way:

- Don't be afraid to do something for the 1st time
- Remember when you see a rainbow - one person can make a difference

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So What

- 6 billion people on this planet. How can we possibly reach them all? - one person at a time
- More Christians martyred today than at any other time in history
- Our country has turned from recognition of God and His ways
- When society bombards you with wrong packaged as right, how do we make a difference?

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So What

1. Be Ready!
2. Be Responsive!
3. Be Relying!

- remember- *“it is not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit say’s the Lord.” Zech. 4:6*

- On God to keep his promises!

