

Single & Single-Again TUES NITES Meal, Message & Mixer

Perseverance

Jane Stolz's video teaching, handout, and audio Mp3 file of this message will be online to share with others at www.christiansinglesindenver.com

DEFINITION

It means to keep continuing forward with an attitude of hope and a smile on the face even when confronted with unpleasant circumstances and great distresses.

OUR NEED FOR PERSEVERANCE

Christians Will Face **T** _____ in Life

John 16:33; Acts 14:21-22

Jesus cautioned potential **F** _____ to count the cost.

Luke 14:25-32; 9:23-24

Only those who **P** _____ receive the reward.

Revelation 2:10-11

PERSEVERANCE IS DEVELOPED IN TRIBULATION

Romans 8:28

Israelites **F** _____ to see the benefits of their trials.

Deuteronomy 8:1-5, 15-17

Rather than **C** _____, we need to **R** _____ in God's work in our lives.

Hebrews 12:5-13; Romans 5:3-4; James 1:2-4, 12.

When we view **A** _____ and **T** _____ with this trusting, hope-filled and joyful attitude, God's grace and strength can and will produce perseverance in us.

CHRISTIAN LIFE IS A MARATHON REQUIRING PERSEVERANCE

Our **S** _____ lives can be compared to a marathon.

Hebrews 12:1-2

Lay aside Sin and Spiritual **H** _____.

1 Corinthians 9:24-25

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This is exactly why we need to look **F** _____.

2 Corinthians 4:16-18.

We need to see Christ as the **P** _____ of our faiths.

2 Corinthians 12:9-10

THE CHRISTIAN MARATHON IS A TEAM SPORT

Unlike earthly marathons, the Christian marathon encourages **T** _____.

Hebrews 3:12-14; 10:23-25

CONCLUSION SCRIPTURE:

2 Timothy 4:6-8

We want to be remembered!

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Discussion Questions:

1. What is something that you have had to persevere through recently?
2. **Have you ever looked back at an event that you persevered through, and realized that you were benefitting from it in your life currently?**
3. What is currently weighing you down, zapping your energy, and diverting you from your purpose?
4. **Whose life can you become involved in to help them run in this marathon we call life?**

HELPFUL TIPS for Great Table Discussions

Each table should have a designated Table Host.

Use God's ear-to-mouth ratio:

Listen two times more than you speak. 1 or 2 people should not dominate the time, and EVERYONE should contribute during the discussion.

1. **Smile and be friendly.**
Avoid excessive complaining about people or personal problems.
2. **God's grace rules the day**
Recognize that everyone will not always agree – be gracious and give grace to one another. People are at different places in their spiritual walk and in their life journey.
3. **Moving the discussion along.**
Table host/facilitators are to move the discussion along. They have permission to limit any negative comments, to invite people to answer a question, to ask someone for their perspective, to limit the amount of time some people speak, and to move on to the next question.
4. **Help for the hurting:**
This is a supportive group, but it is not a support group or a therapy session. But if someone is really hurting, take a moment and have someone in the group specifically pray for them.