

What It Takes To Be A Champion

Super Bowl Sunday Weekend 2009

1st Quarter: Remove all *distractions*.

“Let us strip off anything that slows us down or holds us back and let us run with patience the peculiar race that God has set before us.”

Hebrews 12:1 (LB)

“He [Hezekiah] removed the high places, smashed the sacred stones and cut down the Asherah poles. He broke into pieces the bronze snake Moses had made, for up to that time the Israelites had been burning incense to it.”

2 Kings 18:4

“Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, I strain to reach the end of the race.”

Philippians 3:13-14 (LB)

“Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past.”

Isaiah 43:18

2nd Quarter: Remember the *reason* and the *reward*.

“God in His mercy has given us this work to do so we don’t become discouraged.”

2 Corinthians 4:1

“To win the contest you must deny yourself many things that keep you from doing your best...But we do it for a heavenly reward that never disappears... so I run straight to the goal with purpose in every step.”

1 Cor. 9:25-27 (LB)

“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.”

Hebrews 12:2-3

“We do it for a heavenly reward that never disappears.”

1 Corinthians 9:25 (LB)

3rd Quarter: Resist *discouragement*.

“Let us not get tired of doing what is right, for after a while we will reap a harvest of blessings if we don’t get discouraged and give up.”

Galatians 6:9 (LB)

“You belong to God and have defeated them; because God’s Spirit, who is in you, is greater than the devil, who is in the world.”

1 John 4:4 (NCV)

“You need to keep on patiently doing God’s will if you want Him to do for you all that He has promised.”

Hebrews 10:36

“These things I planned won’t happen right away. Slowly, steadily, surely, the time approaches when the vision will be fulfilled. If it seems slow do not despair for these things will surely come to pass. Just be patient. They will not be overdue a single day.”

Habakkuk. 2:3 (LB)

4th Quarter: Remain *resilient*.

Paul: “This is my work and I can do it only because Christ’s mighty energy is at work within me.”

Colossians 1:29 (LB)

“Are you called to help others? Do it with all the strength and the energy that God supplies so that God will be glorified.”

1 Peter 4:11 (LB)

“God, who began the good work within you, will keep right on helping you grow in His grace until His task within you is finally finished.”

Philippians 1:6 (LB)