

Stay on the Path

Last Wednesday night at TCC, Don Scott spoke about Hebrews 12:1-2 and the importance of running with endurance the race set before us. He mentioned that you have to stay on the established course or path or you will not get a prize. 1 Corinthians 9:24 sums this up nicely: “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*.”

How do we run in a way to obtain the prize? Proverbs 4 provides some excellent advice on how to stay on the right path and obtain the prize.

First, verses 14-15 explain, “Do not enter the path of the wicked, And do not walk in the way of evil. Avoid it, do not travel on it; Turn away from it and pass on.” Satan wants you to enter the path of the wicked. This path is wide and leads to destruction (Matthew 7:13). How do we stay off the path of the wicked? Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and he will draw near to you (James 4:7-8).

Next, Proverbs 4:18-19 discusses how the path of the just is like a shining sun but the way of the wicked is like darkness and makes you stumble. Does this sound familiar? Who is this shining sun? Jesus is, of course. In John 8:12, He states, “I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.” Jesus provides the light that illuminates the way, making it easier to stay on the right path. If you walk in Jesus’ light you will not stumble (John 11:9).

Finally, Proverbs 4:25-27 describes how we should look straight ahead, not turning to the right or to the left. Essentially, we should keep our eyes on the prize. This prize is a heavenly, imperishable crown (1 Corinthians 9:25). It is everlasting life in heaven. If we remember what our prize is, and keep our eyes on it, we can more easily stay on the right path and finish the race.

So, if you resist the devil, walk in the light, and keep your eyes on the prize, you will win the race and receive the prize. The elders love you and pray for you continuously.

For the elders,
Tony Turner