

Finish the Race: One Faithful Step at a Time

Trusting God, following Jesus, and walking by the Spirit.

“Let us run with endurance the race that is set before us.” Hebrews 12:1

Bible Besties, there are seasons when the journey feels long. We become tired, circumstances change, and we wonder how we will keep moving forward. Yet Scripture calls us to persevere, keeping our eyes on Jesus. We can take the next faithful step while trusting Him with the road ahead.

Finishing the race means continuing in faith in Jesus throughout our lives. It includes studying His Word, obeying what He teaches, sharing the gospel, and returning to Him when we stumble. We depend on His grace every step of the way.

What Job 40 teaches us about trusting God

In Job 40:1–5, God addresses Job, and Job responds with humility. In verses 6–14, God challenges Job’s ability to judge and govern the world. In verses 15–24, He points to the strength of a creature He made, reminding Job of the Creator’s greater power.

This chapter emphasizes God’s authority and our limited understanding. That gives us a foundation for perseverance: we can trust God even when we cannot explain our circumstances. The race imagery itself comes from passages such as Hebrews 12:1–3. (Read Job 40)

Bible Besties, sometimes our next step begins with a humble prayer: “Lord, I do not understand everything, but I trust Your wisdom. Help me follow You.”

STEPS...Let’s get to Steppin for Jesus! #StepswithJesus

Steps

1. Keep your eyes on Jesus

Read *Hebrews 12:1–3*. Hebrews calls believers to put aside sin and whatever hinders faithful living, endure, and look to Jesus. His endurance through suffering encourages us when we grow weary.

Ask yourself: What keeps pulling my attention away from Christ? Is there a sin I need to confess, a distraction I need to limit, or a burden I need to bring to Him?

We do not have to measure our progress against someone else's ministry, opportunities, or pace. Our calling is to follow Jesus faithfully where He has placed us.

2. Move forward without living in yesterday

Read *Philippians 3:12–14*. Paul acknowledged that he had not yet arrived, but he continued pressing toward the goal. His words encourage us to keep pursuing Christ.

Moving forward does not require pretending the past never happened. We can grieve, learn, repent, and make things right where needed. But past failures and even past successes must not become the place where we stop growing.

Yesterday can teach you, but today still calls for faithfulness.

Your next step may be small: opening your Bible, asking forgiveness, praying honestly, or doing something God has already made clear in His Word.

3. Study your Bible and put it into practice

Read *2 Timothy 3:16–17* and *James 1:22–25*. Scripture teaches, corrects, and equips us. As we study, we learn who God is and how He calls us to live.

Bible Besties, give God your attention when you open His Word. Read the surrounding verses. Ask what the passage meant in its setting before deciding how it applies to your life.

Then ask:

- What does this passage teach me about God?
- Is there a command to obey or a sin to turn from?
- What can I put into practice today?

Understanding grows through careful study, and faithful living involves acting on what we understand.

4. Share the good news along the way

Read Matthew 28:18–20 and 1 Corinthians 15:3–4. Following Jesus includes helping others know Him. The gospel announces that Jesus Christ died for our sins, was buried, and rose again. We invite people to repent and trust Him.

You can share that good news in an ordinary conversation. Tell someone why you trust Jesus. Offer to read Scripture with them. Explain His forgiveness with gentleness and love.

We are responsible to bear witness faithfully; we depend on God to work in people's hearts.

5. Walk by the Spirit in obedience and trust (See Last page about this)

Read Galatians 5:16, 22–25 and Isaiah 26:3. Walking by the Spirit involves yielding our choices to God and growing in the character His Spirit produces: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

Obedience may mean speaking kindly when you feel irritated, refusing temptation, telling the truth, or waiting patiently. Test impressions against Scripture; the Holy Spirit will not lead us into disobedience to God's Word.

Trust and obedience make room for a life shaped by God's peace and goodness. His blessings include fellowship with Him, wisdom, spiritual growth, and opportunities to bless others. Faithfulness can still involve suffering, as Job's life reminds us. Peace can sustain us while difficult circumstances remain.

Three words to remember

- **Endurance:** Continuing in faith through difficulty.
- **Obedience:** Responding to God's Word with faithful action.
- **Trust:** Depending on God's character and wisdom when we cannot see the outcome.

Bible Besties, finishing the race happens through daily faithfulness. Keep studying. Keep praying. Keep sharing Jesus. Receive help when you need it and allow room for rest. When you stumble, repent and return to the Lord.

Our hope rests in Jesus, who died and rose again to save us. We follow Him because we belong to Him. By His grace, may we reach the end able to echo Paul's testimony in 2 Timothy 4:7: he had finished his race and kept the faith.

What is one faithful step you can take with Jesus today?

Dear Heavenly Father, thank You for Your patience and faithfulness. Help us trust You when we do not understand the road ahead. Give us a hunger for Scripture, courage to share the gospel, and willing hearts to obey You. Holy Spirit, guide our steps and grow Your fruit in our lives. Keep our eyes on Jesus and strengthen us to finish our race faithfully. In Jesus' name, amen.



9/15/26

Walking by the Spirit

Read Galatians 5:16, 22-25 and Isaiah 26:3.
Let the Holy Spirit guide your choices and grow His fruit in your life.



Circle one quality you want to grow in this week.

Love • Joy • Peace

Patience • Kindness • Goodness

Faithfulness • Gentleness • Self-control



Fruit
for a
Brighter
Tomorrow
♥

1. How can I show love or kindness today?

2. What choice can I yield to God?

3. Read Isaiah 26:3. Whom will I trust, and where will I keep my thoughts?

4. Write a short prayer asking the Holy Spirit to help you grow.



One faithful step with God today!

