



On Your Mark: Take Your Position

Pastor Daren L. Barron | January 14, 2024

Stretch: 2024 will require committed training

1 Corinthians 9:24-27 Easy-to-Read Version

24 You know that in a race all the runners run, but only one runner gets the prize. So **run like that. Run to win!** 25 All who compete in the games use strict training. They do this so that they can win a prize—one that doesn't last. But our prize is one that will last forever. 26 So **I run like someone who has a goal.** I fight like a boxer who is hitting something, not just the air. 27 **It is my own body I fight to make it do what I want.** I do this so that I won't miss getting the prize myself after telling others about it.

On Your Mark: Take Your Position

- On your mark - Get in Position!
- It matters what Position you take.
- Physical
- Willful, Mental, Emotional, Intellectual
- Spiritual
- Our lives are hindered when our whole self doesn't take the same position
- We create a sense of actual peace and harmony when our whole self takes the same position

- Too often people try to run this Believers' race without taking the correct Position.

Mark 12:28-31 New Living Translation

28 One of the teachers of religious law was standing there listening to the debate. He realized that Jesus had answered well, so he asked, "Of all the commandments, which is the most important?" 29 Jesus replied, "The most important commandment is this: 'Listen, O Israel! The Lord our God is the one and only Lord. 30 And you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength.' 31 The second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' **No other commandment is greater than these.**"

What Position should I take?

Mark 12:30 Amplified Bible, Classic Edition

And you shall **love the Lord your God** out of and with your whole heart and out of and with all your soul (your life) and out of and with all your mind (with your faculty of thought and your moral understanding) and out of and with all your strength. This is the first and principal commandment.

Romans 5:5 Living Bible

Then, when that happens, we are able to hold our heads high no matter what happens and know that all is well, for we know how dearly God loves us, and we feel this warm love everywhere within us because **God has given us the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with his love.**]

- When we take the Position of Loving God with all that we are and have, we secure our chance of winning our Christian race.

On Your Mark: Take Your Position

When you open yourself up to take the Position of the greatest commandments, you Position yourself for supernatural wins in your life.

2 Chronicles 20:17 Amplified Bible

You need not fight in this battle; **take your positions**, stand and witness the salvation of the Lord who is with you, O Judah and Jerusalem. Do not fear or be dismayed; tomorrow go out against them, for the Lord is with you.'"

Why do Praise & Worship go before we give our prayer and offering? Because as we are Praising God, He is fighting our battles!

2 Chronicles 20:18-22

18 Jehoshaphat bowed with his face to the ground. And all the people of Judah and Jerusalem bowed down before the Lord and worshiped him. 19 The Levites from the Kohath family groups and the Korah family stood up to praise the Lord, the God of Israel. They sang very loudly. 20 Early the next morning, Jehoshaphat's army went out into the desert of Tekoa. As they marched out, Jehoshaphat stood there saying, "Listen to me, men of Judah and Jerusalem. Have faith in the Lord your God, and you will stand strong! Have faith in his prophets, and you will succeed!" 21 Jehoshaphat encouraged the men and gave them instructions. Then he had the Temple singers stand up in their special clothes to praise the Lord. They marched in front of the army and sang, "Give thanks to the Lord! His faithful love will last forever." 22 As they began to sing and to praise God, the Lord set an ambush for the army from Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir who had come to attack Judah. The enemy was defeated!

Loving others Positions me for growth and secures my win in my Christian race

How do I learn to Love myself?

Mark 12:31 Easy-to-Read Version

The second most important command is this: 'Love your neighbor the same as you love yourself.'

- Know who your Creator IS
- Know why you were Created
- Know where you as a Creative being are going