

Helping Others Finish

We are to run our race like one who wants to win a crown, but that doesn't mean we forget all the others in the race.

Keys to Helping Others Finish

- **Power of _____**
 - Acts 11:23-24 – The effect of Barnabas' encouragement.
 - Acts 14:20-23 – The effect the bloodied and injured Paul had on encouraging the brethren.
 - 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 – Words of the Bible are given to us to comfort and give others hope. We have great power of the Holy Spirit's words when we share His words in love to comfort others.
 - WE have to understand the power of our influence.
 - The power of our words. "Anxiety in a man's heart weighs him down but a good word makes him glad" (Proverbs 12:25).
 - The power of our listening ears.
 - The power of our presence...just being there for others.
- **Culture of _____**
 - Luke 15:1-2 – Jesus was a safe haven for struggling people.
 - In contrast, the Jewish people were not seeking out the Jewish religious leadership. The Pharisees were binding heavy burdens on others, they were self-righteous, they were condescending, they despised others.
 - In contrast, the friends of Job were "miserable comforters" and Job tells us what he would have done if his friends were suffering (Job 16:1-5).
 - Are you and I people who those struggling would feel safe to talk to?
- **Act with _____**
 - Jonathan purposefully sought out David to "strengthen his hand in God" (1 Samuel 23:15-18).
 - Onesiphorus searched for Paul "earnestly" in Rome (2 Timothy 15-18).
 - You can't just say, "If there's anything I can do, let me know."
- **Move with _____**
 - Hebrews 3:12-14 – As long as it is called 'today.' That none of you be hardened by sin.
 - We have to appreciate the urgency of this. If we wait thinking, "they'll figure it out" maybe they won't!
 - Do you know your brethren more than the "Hi, how are you doing?" at the church building?
 - Do you know of someone around you who is struggling? What will you do tonight about it?