



Pastor Toby Locke • Week 14 • 10/10/2021

Eyes on the Prize

James 1:12

Big Idea: Your training WILL _____ !

What will we gain from all this work?

A full-grown _____ to Jesus. (James 1:2-4, Luke 6:40)

Valuable _____ you can use today. (Hebrews 5:14)

God's _____. (1 Timothy 4:6, 2 Timothy 2:15)

Eternal _____. (James 1:12, 1 Peter 1:6-7)

Conclusion: The rewards we will receive for our faithfulness to our spiritual training will be worth the price we must pay. Keep your eyes on the prize, and **KEEP TRAINING!**

FIRST BAPTIST HORSEHEADS
LIFE GROUPS 

Debrief Plan: 10/10/2021

Icebreakers:

1. Did you ever attempt something really hard that REALLY paid off in the end? Tell your group the story.
2. What kind of prize would it take to convince you to train to run a half-marathon (if you're under 50) or go back to school for a Ph.D (if you're 50+)?

Sermon Summary: Your hard work will pay off during your lifetime in the form of a full-grown resemblance to Jesus, valuable life-skills, and God's affirmation and approval, not to mention the eternal recognition you'll enjoy in the Kingdom. Keep your eyes on the prize; keep training.

Discussion Questions:

1. Did an authority figure ever try to convince you as a young person that hard work would pay off? Who was that person and did they get through to you?
2. Is it selfish or unspiritual to ask the question, "What will I get out of all this?" Defend your answer from Scripture, if you can!

* **A Full-Grown Resemblance to Jesus**

3. Have you ever known someone who gave evidence that they were "perfect and complete, lacking nothing" as James describes? What effect did they have on your own spiritual training?
4. What characteristic of Jesus are you eager to fully resemble someday?

* **Valuable Skills You Can Use Today**

5. Work with your group to make a list of 10-12 spiritual life-skills that every Christian needs to develop in the process of their spiritual training.
6. What spiritual life-skill do you **wish** that you could fully utilize today?

* **God's Approval**

7. How is God's "approval" as described by Pastor Toby different from God's "acceptance" of you in Christ at salvation?

* **Eternal Recognition**

8. Does it make you uncomfortable to think that God will one day recognize your faithful service to Him in eternity? Why or why not?
9. Why do you think it's important **to God** to recognize his faithful servants in eternity? What does this desire in God's heart tell us about what He is like?