



Real-Life Hero – May 7, 2022

¹ “Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ² fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. ³ For consider Him who has endured such hostility by sinners against Himself, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.”

Find your people.

“Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us...”

- Choose your friends wisely.

Don't be fooled by those who say such things, for “bad company corrupts good character.” **1 Corinthians 15:33 NLT**

Walk with the wise and become wise; associate with fools and get in trouble. **Proverbs 13:20 NLT**

- Be accountable.

Lighten your load.

“... let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us...”

- Remove things from your life that are useless.
 - Time
 - Energy
 - Money

- Remove unnecessary guilt from your life.

²⁸ Then Jesus said, “Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle at heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy to bear, and the burden I give you is light.” **Matthew 11:28-30 NLT**

- Remove sin from your life.

²³ Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. ²⁴ Point out anything in me that offends you, and lead me along the path of everlasting life. **Psalms 139:23-24 NLT**

Keep your focus.

“...fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith...”

- Know why you are running.

The most important thing you can give your kids is an example of what a growing relationship with Jesus looks like.

- Look to the finish line.

¹⁷ For our present troubles are small and won't last very long. Yet they produce for us a glory that vastly outweighs them and will last forever!

¹⁸ So we don't look at the troubles we can see now; rather, we fix our gaze on things that cannot be seen. For the things we see now will soon be gone, but the things we cannot see will last forever.

2 Corinthians 4:17-18 NLT

Keep going.

“For consider Him who has endured such hostility by sinners against Himself, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.”

- You will fall down.
- When you do, get back up.

I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us. **Philippians 3:14 NLT**