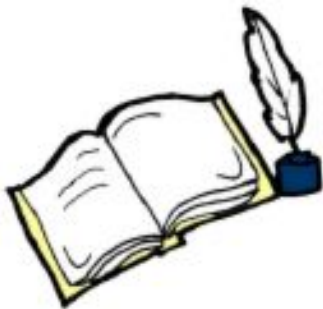


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How deep are you willing to go in the Lord? How aggressively are you willing to pursue?

Human nature tends to need a crisis to motivate passion, a dire circumstance to motivate “desperation.” But what if—completely on my own and **with no crisis required**—I begin to reach fervently toward the Lord, “**as if**” desperate? What if I begin to chase, with no crisis required, “**as if**” my life depended on it?” As if...”

Paul says to the Corinthians in 1Co 9:24 AMP, “*Do you not know that in a race all the runners compete, but [only] one receives the prize? So run [your race] that you may lay hold [of the prize] and make it yours.*”

Thankfully, our relationship with God is not a competition. He is not reserving His reward in this spiritual race for one exclusive winner. Paul, however, is saying to run our race “**as if...**” “*So run*” means: “run in this fashion, **as if** there is only one prize!”

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