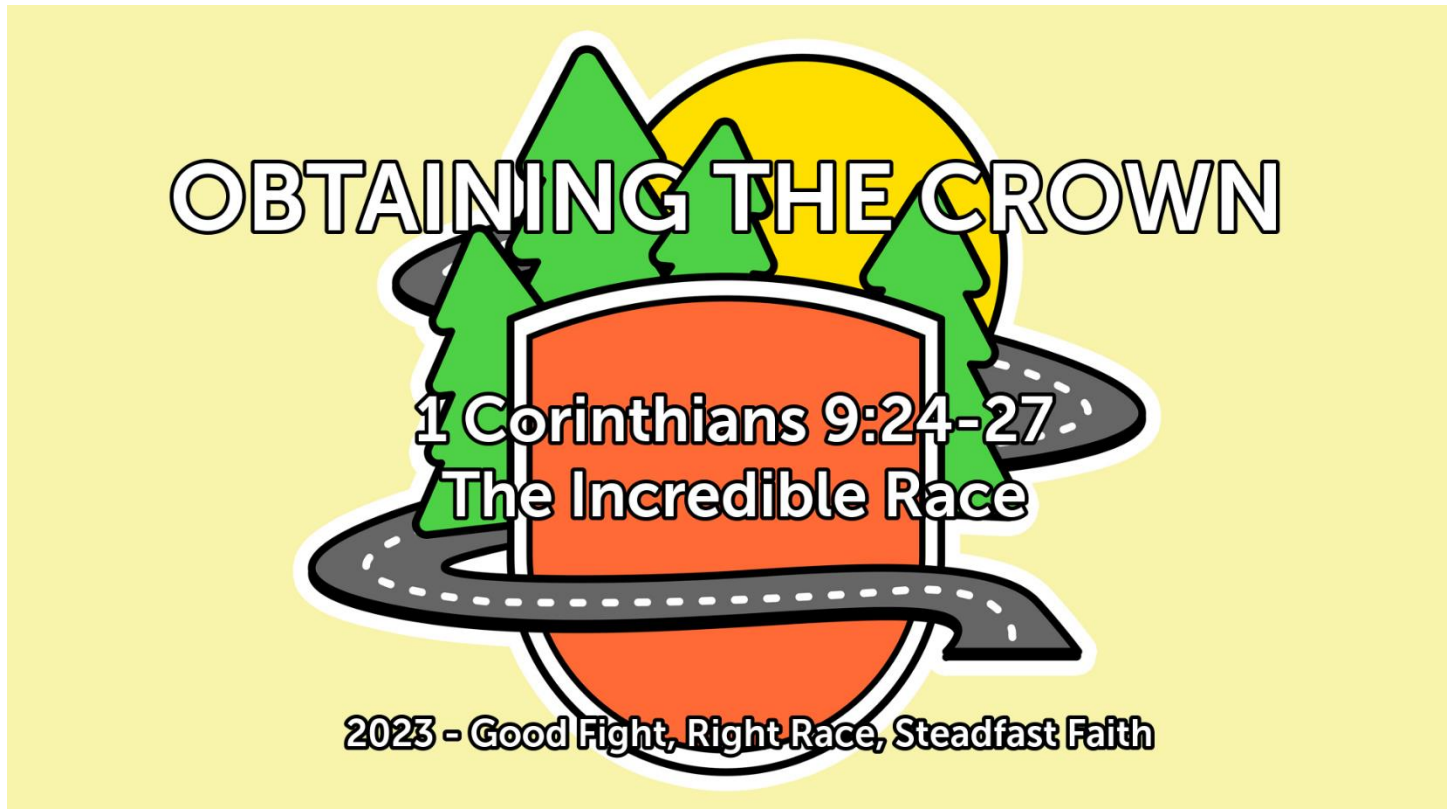


Obtaining the Crown

Barry G. Johnson, Sr. / www.BarrysBureau.com

The Incredible Race / Strive; Crown; Race (Competition) / 1 Corinthians 9:24-27

The Crown of Eternal Life is achieved by effort, self-control, and self-examination, with tests allowing all participants the prize.



1 Corinthians 9:24-27 ESV

²⁴ Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. ²⁵ Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. ²⁶ So I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air. ²⁷ But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.



Obtaining the Crown

Point One: Making the Effort Needed to Win the Prize

Philippians 3:14 ESV

¹⁴ I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

2 Timothy 2:5 ESV

⁵ An athlete is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules.

Point Two: The Importance of Self-Control

Galatians 5:22–23 ESV

²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

2 Peter 1:6 ESV

⁶ and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness,

Point Three: The Dangers of Disqualification

Hebrews 12:1 ESV

¹ Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,

2 Corinthians 13:5 ESV

⁵ Examine yourselves, to see whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Or do you not realize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?—unless indeed you fail to meet the test!

James 1:12 ESV

¹² Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him.

Obtaining the Crown

Study Question #1: What types of effort are needed in order to gain the ultimate goal - the eternal prize?

Study Question Answer #1: The types of effort needed to gain the eternal prize are: _____
_____.

Study Question #2: What are the purposes of rules when participating in a race?

Study Question Answer #2: The purpose of rules when participating in a race is _____.

Study Question #3: What areas do we need to demonstrate self-control?

Study Question Answer #3: We need self-control in our _____.

Study Question #4: Where does one get self-control from?

Study Question Answer #4: Self-Control that aids in achieving the crown of life can only be found in _____.

Study Question #5: What is the danger in doing life according to your desires and rules?

Study Question Answer #5: The biggest danger in doing things according to your rules and desires is _____.

Study Question #6: What is the benefit of examining yourself, and what is the purpose of a test?

Study Question Answer #6: The benefit of examining yourself is _____, and tests _____.