

Let's Talk CHANGE DEVOTIONALS



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SLOW DOWN

Dr. Vanessa Dantzer Ussery | March 15, 2017

"Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God." Hebrews 12:1-2 NKJV



While many individuals are not athletic, one thing we can all agree on is that a good runner cannot last a long haul if they run too quickly on the front end. Over sprinting prevents them from having the endurance needed to make it to the finish line. If they start off to quickly then they eventually realize the need to slow down and save their energy to get to the finish line; hopefully winning the race. The quick start may not be their downfall, but it will definitely be the reason for their defeat if they do not slow down and conserve their strength.

To some measure this concept can apply to our spiritual race. Some people enter in with a quick start then before long they are tired of their kingdom experience and are ready to quit. The obstacles encountered eventually wear them down as they moved too quickly thinking it's a cake walk. Our spiritual journey is as long as we are living. You may as well slow down and realize you cannot speed your way through the kingdom to get to heaven.

We all have to endure the race that is set before us. Jesus could not hurry along his horrible experience of the cross, but instead had to endure the cross and could not give up His life until the wrath of God had been satisfied through the brutal beatings, thorns, humiliation, and finally being nailed to the cross and abandoned by God. We all have to look to Jesus who is the author and finisher of our faith to teach us to run this race with patience and endurance.

An endurance run is more like a marathon and it has to be paced. You cannot hurry God as He develops us. Remember, we all get to heaven at the same time, so...SLOW DOWN!

Residing in Los Angeles, CA, Dr. Vanessa Dantzer Ussery is the Emeritus Pastor of Home Assembly Church in Los Angeles, is the founder of "Celebrate Change Ministries" and the author of "My Be Attitude: Who Be You?", which is available online in softcover or eBook at MyBeAttitude.org, Xulon Press, Amazon and Barnes & Noble. Dr. Ussery is available for national speaking engagements, empowerment seminars, and lectures. For more information, CelebrateChange.org | Info@CelebrateChange.org | 310-436-6336 X216.

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