



RUNNING THE RACE

WILL YOU ACCEPT THE INVITATION?

LET'S LOOK AT TWO OLYMPIC ATHLETES

- Do you know who this is?

Sydney
McLaughlin-Levrone



| Olympic Games | | |
|---------------|------------|---------------|
| G | 2020 Tokyo | 400 m hurdles |
| G | 2020 Tokyo | 4×400 m relay |
| G | 2024 Paris | 400 m hurdles |
| G | 2024 Paris | 4×400 m relay |



ADMIRABLE FAITH



[Sydney McLaughlin-Levrone](#) regularly writes about her Christian faith on Instagram, sharing insights from Bible studies and gratitude for God.

After she won her second Olympic gold medal this week in the women's 400-meter hurdles event, the U.S. track and field superstar continued this tradition, thanking of God:

“What an honor, a blessing, and a privilege. I never want to take these moments for granted,” “In a week where my faith was tried, my peace wavered, and the weight of the world began to descend, God was beyond gracious.”

She pointed readers to a Bible verse, [Psalm 115:1](#), about trusting and celebrating the Lord: “Not to us, O Lord, not to us, but to your name give glory, for the sake of your steadfast love and your faithfulness!” McLaughlin-Levrone wrote.

Her Teammate Sha'Carri Richardson said this about who she admired: *“If I had to pick any Olympian in all honesty. I will honestly say Sydney [McLaughlin-Levrone]. My favorite thing about her is her faith,”*

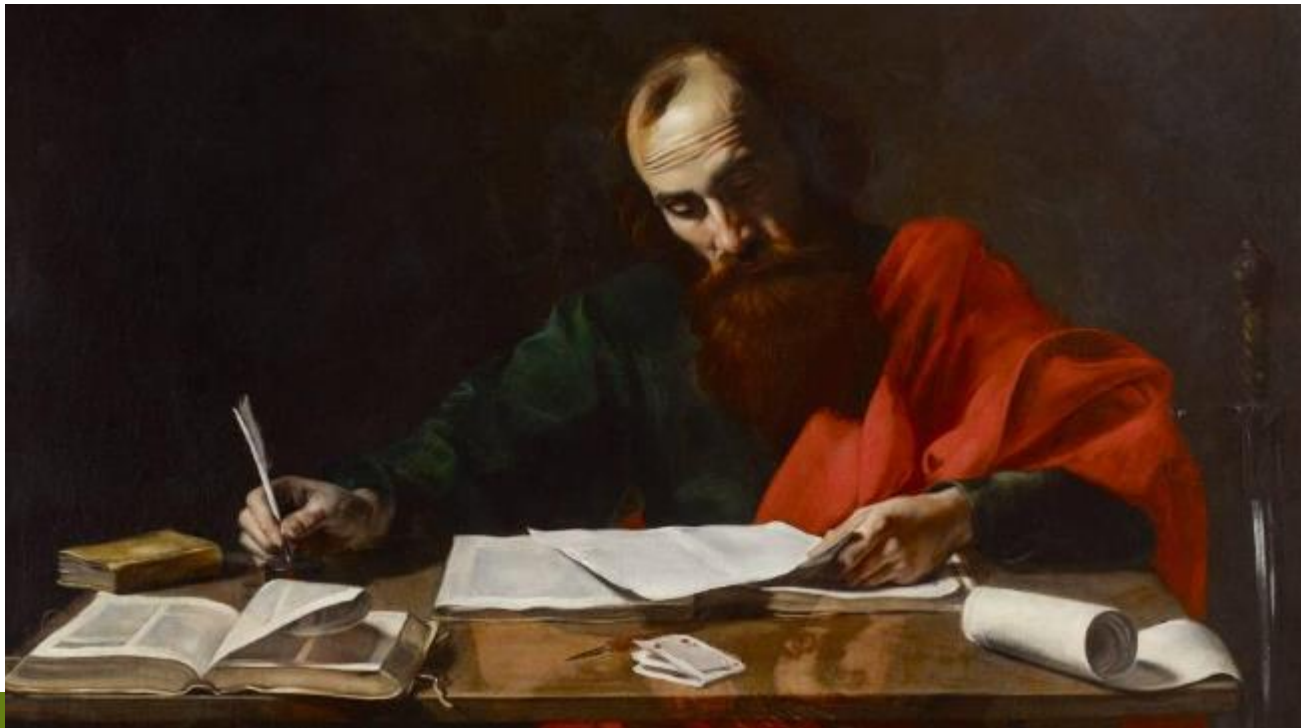


BIBLE STORY



IN 1 CORINTHIANS 9:24-27, PAUL WRITES:

²⁴ In a race all the runners run. But only one gets the prize. You know that, don't you? So run in a way that will get you the prize. ²⁵ All who take part in the games train hard. They do it to get a crown that will not last. But we do it to get a crown that will last forever. ²⁶ So I do not run like someone who doesn't run toward the finish line. I do not fight like a boxer who hits nothing but air. ²⁷ No, I train my body and bring it under control. Then after I have preached to others, I myself will not break the rules. If I did break them, I would fail to win the prize.



INVITATION TO GOD'S RELAY RACE

- God doesn't "need" us to be a part of what he wants to accomplish, but He "invites" us to be.
- V27: Paul says – No, I train my body and bring it under control. Then after I have preached to others, I myself will not break the rules. If I did break them, I would fail to win the prize.
 - How can we live our lives to "run the race well"?
- God is always reaching out to us. Today he was working in your life and mine. He was giving you opportunities to "grab the bouton from Him". Right now He is speaking to us through His word.
 - Is there an opportunity that you think God may be using in your life now?

