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The Almighty Race

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Hebrews 10:20
unveiling great outreach & youth ministry

Characters: 5+ = 1 Male, all others either. Best done with 9 and runners paired-up. R1 can speak all Runner lines or each number can be a new speaker. If pairing runners keep genders separate. See *Couples Option for using all adults and pairing married couples*.

Setting: starting line for a race (can make it any kind, cars, cross-country, so long as the costumes don't interfere with speaking nor understanding the purpose, ie.: no 5K fundraisers or strange costumes used in fun-runs).

Props: Clipboard for HS (holds script), Christian flag or red handkerchief, a Bible in the hands of each Running pair and sunglasses hanging on the neck of each individual.

Scripture: Colossians 1:12 (ESV). "...giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light", plus Proverbs 3:5-6.

Opening: Holy Spirit enters and calls the runners to gather at the starting line (ad-lib this one).

HS: **Participants invited to the Almighty Race do not be nervous.** (Runners shake off their nerves and stretch a bit before lining up to one side.) **All of you are qualified so here are your instructions...**

R1: **But none of us have yet run a qualifier.** (All agree too enthusiastically).

HS: **It says right here, "Colossians 1:12, '...giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light...' " so basically, Jesus, The Sponsor's Son, ran your qualifying race for you and paid your entry fees. He qualified for you before you were even born. And everyone who accepts the invitation gets a crown as they cross the finish line. (All react too enthusiastically). You still need to run the race, but know you are fit for service.**

Some of you will get a second crown for your (HS checks clipboard to quote in a slight technical manner) **"endurance and faithfulness along the way which WILL be wrought with hardships."** (All react too enthusiastically, notice it, and begin to question whether they want to participate). **You see, the Sponsor's competitor, who wants your attention, has put some obstacles on the course, his agents in your path, and LOOOOves to make the right ways seem less desirable than the roads that lead to destruction.**

(Runners show they are nervous again.) **Again, Do... not... fear.... I will light the way in the darkness and guide you into all Truth, but you need to wear your Son glasses to see only His footprints.** (Runners put glasses on faces.) **He has set up road signs along the way,** (Pause while Runners show they see a few signs.) **...so trust what He says now and even more so when you get tired and are drawn by others to give up or take a break for some new scenery.** (*Couples* can look at each other.) **Basically, "Do not lean on your own understanding. Acknowledge Me and I'll make your path** (gestures with hand) **level."**

R1/2: **Who are you?**



HS: I'm the Spirit Leader, Holy devoted to getting you across the finish line. Dynamic Power, Aid, Guidance, Wisdom, Peace, Defence and whatever you need at that moment I will give you, but remember, I obey the Sponsor's orders, not yours, and so you'll need to work with Me.

You won't see Me, but focus and you will recognize My voice. You will never be alone.

(Insert couples option here)

R1/3: **Where is The Way?**

HS: **You are being "sent out" in different directions.** (Runners react cautiously to being split up.) **You, go North. You, go East. You, go South. And, you, dear one, go West, young man.** (Only add, "young man" if the runner is a young man, otherwise just say, "And you, dear one, go West.")

R1/3: **But why split us up? Wouldn't it be best if we stuck together the whole way?**

HS: **you are each being sent on a path that encounters others who have yet to accept their invitation. Just tell them that the Sponsor has invited them just as you were by someone else.** (If using paired runners add, "*help each other along the way.*") **Some who weren't on the path will join you, so encourage everyone.**

R1/4: **Go buy heavy parkas and snow shoes, 'cause I know it's cold where I've been.**

HS: **Final words from The Sponsor. "Do not put burdens on each other or those you encounter to start where you did nor be where you are. I created you and sponsor each of you individually. I know you and want each of you to know Me, so follow the footprints of My Son. He is The Way and you have a copy of the whole plan from start to finish AND the after party celebration in your Runner's Map. If in doubt, check it."**

OK, now on your Mark, (All face backs-to-backs for a moment) **get set...** (HS raises flag or lowers handkerchief to toss into the air and runners all take a deep breath in) **and...** (All take a step forward and freeze for count of three)

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Keep author's name on all copies.

Use the script for God's will, not your own.

Get permission from the author before making changes to the script.

Pray hard over all participants & have fun watching God move in great and magnificent ways.

Present the skit for free: freely you have received, freely give.

Try to have some biblical literature to distribute and have someone available to lead people to the altar in a sinner's prayer.

COUPLES OPTION

If using all adults, married couples can be the paired runners. Two of the women can hang on to each other and their male counterparts can do the same. Then the Holy Spirit smiles, shakes His head, "No," and signals with hands to let go and pair up with their mates. One couple gives in somewhat reluctantly, but the other man twirls his woman delightfully.

