

**U = Church**  
**Finding Your Life's Mission**  
**Part 4**

God called you to be a part of His work in this world.

God called you to be a follower of Jesus.

God called you to represent Jesus as an ambassador

God called you to become more and more like Christ

**MARATHON TO MATURITY**

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Every part of my life -- my schedule, my relationships, my habits -- are either going to get me closer to Jesus or they are going to take me further away.

*Let us strip off anything that slows us down or holds us back, especially those sins that wrap themselves so tightly around our feet and trip us up. Let us run with patience the particular race that God has set before us. **Hebrews 12:1-2***

I can't do God's plan for my life and my plan at the same time.  
And I can't do your plan for my life and God's plan at the same time.

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*Let us run with patience the particular race that God set out before us. **Hebrews 12:1***

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Whatever you want to become you need to think about it.

Whoever you spend the most time with is who you will resemble.

*We do this by keeping our eyes on Jesus, on whom our faith depends from start to finish. **Hebrews 12:2***

I cannot become like Jesus

Unless I spend time with Jesus

*Jesus went out as usual to the Mount of Olives to pray. **Luke 22:30***

Time = Resemblance

*All of us have had that veil removed so that we can be mirrors that brightly reflect the glory of the Lord. And as the Spirit of the Lord works within us, we become more and more like him and reflect his glory even more. **2 Corinthians 3:18***

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Instead of asking Why, ask What?

God, what do you want me to learn from this situation?

*Jesus did not give up when he was running his race because of the cross! On the contrary, because of the joy that was waiting for him, he thought nothing of the disgrace of dying on the cross, and he is now seated at the right side of God's throne. So think of what he went through, how he put up with so much - so much hatred from sinners! So don't let yourselves become discouraged and give up. **Hebrews 12:2-3***

*Since we are his children, we will share in his treasures ... for everything God gives to his Son, Christ, is ours too. But if we are to share his glory, we must also share his suffering. **Romans 8:17***

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To run fast, run alone  
To run far, run together

*Let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another as you see the Day approaching. **Hebrews 10:25***

You are beloved. You belong. You can become!

Gives you the courage to start the race.  
Gives you the courage to stay in the race.  
Gives you the courage to finish the race.

