YOU ARE CALLED TO BECOME Week 4 - WOEAIHF

"And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them. ²⁹ For God knew his people in advance, and he chose them to become like his Son, so that his Son would be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters." Romans 8:28-29

MY 3RD CALLING: TO BECOME LIKE CHRIST

To run the marathon to maturity I must...

1. SIMPLIFY MY LIFE

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, let us strip off <u>every weight that slows us down</u>, especially the sin that so easily trips us up. And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us." Hebrews 12:1

2. DON'T GET IMPATIENT OR IN A HURRY!

"And let us <u>run with endurance</u> the race God has set before us." Heb 12:1b

3. SPEND TIME FOCUSING ON JESUS EVERYDAY!

"We do this by keeping our <u>eyes on Jesus</u>, the champion who initiates and perfects our faith." Hebrews 12:2

"Jesus left the upstairs room and went as usual to the Mount of Olives...and prayed." Luke 22:39-41

4. WHEN LIFE GETS HARD, REMEMBER THE REWARD!

"Because of the joy awaiting him, he endured the cross, disregarding its shame. Now he is seated in the <u>place of honour</u> beside God's throne. ³ Think of all the hostility he endured from sinful people; then you won't become weary and give up. ⁴ After all, you have not yet given your lives in your struggle against sin." Hebrews 12:2-4

"In his kindness God called you to <u>share in his eternal glory</u> by means of Christ Jesus. So after you have <u>suffered a little</u> while, he will <u>restore</u>, <u>support</u>, and <u>strengthen</u> you, and he will place you on a firm foundation. ¹¹ All power to him forever! Amen." 1 Peter 5:10-11

5. GATHER A TEAM TO RUN WITH ME

"Let us think of ways to <u>motivate</u> (spur) one another to acts of love and good works. ²⁵ And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but <u>encourage one another</u>, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near." Hebrews 10:24-25

6. TAKE EVERY STEP WITH PURPOSE!

"All athletes are <u>disciplined</u> in their training. They do it to win a prize that will fade away, but we do it for an eternal prize. ²⁶ So I <u>run with purpose</u> in every step. I am not just shadowboxing. ²⁷ I discipline my body like an athlete, training it to do what it should." 1 Corinthians 9:25-27

7. REALIZE WHAT I DON'T FINISH, GOD WILL!

"And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns." Philippians 1:6