

MORNING WORSHIP

18 September 2005

Theme: “Not with Uncertainty”

Text: 1 Corinthians 9:24-27

Title: Discipline of the Body

(I) DIFFICULTIES FACED IN DISCIPLINE OF THE BODY

1. Creature comforts

- a) Tasting of comfort
- b) Desire of comfort

2. Lifestyle habits

- a) A love for comfort is habit-forming
- b) Habits become a lifestyle

3. Influence of the sin-principle

- a) The enslaving power of sin Romans 6:16-19
- b) Fruit of sin- Death! Romans 6:21, 23

(II) DISCIPLINE OF THE BODY

1. Finding motivation

“I do it for the Gospel’s sake” 1 Corinthians 9:23

- a) Necessity of motivation
- b) Power of motivation
- c) Many motivations possible

2. Challenging Life-Examples

- a) Successful sportsmen
- b) Drawing parallels
 - i) “They do it for a perishable crown” 1 Corinthians 9:25
 - ii) “We do it for an imperishable crown” 1 Corinthians 9:25

(III) DISCIPLINE METHODS

1. Self-Control

“And everyone who competes for the prize is temperate in all things” 1 Corinthians 9:25

2. Training

“Therefore I run thus...” 1 Corinthians 9:26

“Thus I fight...” 1 Corinthians 9:26

3. No pain, No gain

“But I discipline my body and bring it into subjection...” 1 Corinthians 9:27

a) “Discipline”

“To beat black and blue”- (Literal lexical suggestion- Thayer)

b) “Bring it into subjection”

“To make it my slave...” (NASB)

THE SHAPING OF A DISCIPLE

When God wants to drill a man,
And thrill a man, and skill a man,
When God wants to mold a man
To play for Him the noblest part,
When He yearns with all His heart
To build so great and bold a man
That all the world shall stand amazed,
Then watch God’s methods, watch His ways!
How He ruthlessly perfects
Whom He royally elects;
How He hammers him and hurts him,
And with mighty blows converts him,
Making shapes and forms which only
God Himself can understand,
Even while His man is crying,
Lifting a beseeching hand...
Yet God bends but never breaks
When man’s good He undertakes;
When He uses whom He chooses,
And with every purpose fuses
Man to act, and act to man,
As it was when He began;

When God tries His splendor out,
Man will know what He's about!

- Dale Martin Stone -