



# The Power of Dedication

The Book of Acts

Midweek Sermon

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We all have dreams. But in order to make dreams come into reality, it takes an awful lot of determination, dedication, self-discipline, and effort.

—Jesse Owens

Live as if you were living for the second time and had acted as wrongly the first time as you are about to act now.

—Dr. Viktor Frankl, *Man's Search for Meaning*

## THE POWER OF DEDICATION TEACHES US FOUR THINGS

### 1. Paul's Faithful \_\_\_\_\_

*Acts 20:24a (NKJV)*

*But none of these things move me...*

### 2. Paul's Fearless \_\_\_\_\_

*Acts 20:24b (NKJV)*

*"...nor do I count my life dear to myself..."*

### 3. Paul's Forward \_\_\_\_\_

*Acts 20:24 (ESV)*

*24 But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.*

What does a race involve?

#### 1. A race has to be run.

*1 Cor. 9:24 (NKJV)*

*Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it.*

#### 2. A race has to be finished.

*2 Timothy 4:7 (NKJV)*

*7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.*

### 3. A race should be enjoyed.

Hebrews 12:1-2 (ESV)

*1 Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, 2 looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.*

### 4. Paul's Forceful \_\_\_\_\_

Acts 20:25-28 (ESV)

*25 And now, behold, I know that none of you among whom I have gone about proclaiming the kingdom will see my face again. 26 Therefore I testify to you this day that I am innocent of the blood of all, 27 for I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole counsel of God. 28 Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood.*

#### ANSWERS:

1. PASSION
2. PROCLAMATION
3. PURSUIT
4. PLEA