



MESSAGE NOTES

Is obedience a loss of freedom?

Matthew 16:24

Loyd Flaherty

1. Obedience brings freedom

The fruit of obedience is being set free.

Romans 6:22 “But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life.

2. Olympic Athletes - How can they endure the training and the difficulties?

1 Corinthians 9:25 -27

“Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever. **26 Therefore I do not run like someone running aimlessly**; I do not fight like a boxer beating the air. **27** No, I strike a blow to my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize.

3. Keeping our eyes on the goal

Hebrews 12 “Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. **And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, 2 fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith.** For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

4. Rescue has come

2 Corinthians 6:2 — For he says, “In the time of my favor I heard you, and in the day of salvation I helped you.” I tell you, **now is the time** of God’s favor, now is the day of salvation.

Conclusion

Matthew 16:24 "Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.'"

In the NLT version it reads: “turn from your selfish ways”

Romans 6:16-18, “Don’t you know that when you offer yourselves to someone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one you obey—whether you are slaves to sin, which leads to death, or to obedience, which leads to righteousness? **17** But thanks be to God that, though you used to be slaves to sin, you have come to obey from your heart the pattern of teaching that has now claimed your allegiance. **18** You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness.”