



4. Run to realize your potential

God equips you and provides the resources you'll need. But, His provision doesn't stop there. As a coworker with God, you are tapping into potential that exceeds your innate abilities. David says:

*For who is God besides the Lord?
And who is the Rock except our God?
It is God who arms me with strength...*

*He makes my feet like the feet of a deer...
You give me your shield of victory,
and your right hand sustains me;
you stoop down to make me great.*

Psalm 18:31-35, NIV

COACH'S COUNSEL

I believe that God wants each of us to be great—not merely good at what we do, but great! He has given each of us unique talents and abilities to help make us great, and one day we will give an account for what we have done with what he has entrusted to us. What a shame it would be to have wasted your God-given abilities.¹⁶

Former NFL coach Joe Gibbs

By the way, spectators are not in a position to realize their full potential or to do something great—runners are. Therefore, we have to be runners in the race.

With His perfect vision and totally accurate perspective, God sees you blossoming into something beautiful. As a fellow worker with the Lord, your potential surpasses what you could do on your own. It's another reason your race is an adventure with God.





NOTES

Take the case of Moses. When God introduced His plan, He basically said, “Moses, I plan to move My people out of Egypt, to the Promised Land, and I want you to work with me on this. The ‘race,’ or the challenge



TIME OUT



Knowing I have the Lord within me...there is no greater strength...When I run, I feel the pleasure. When I'm competing, I have peace of mind...I seek the Lord's help in even the simplest of things.¹⁷

*Carl Lewis
Nine Olympic Gold Medals*

There is never a day when I forget to thank our Lord for touching my life with greatness.¹⁸

*Michael Johnson
Five Olympic Gold Medals*

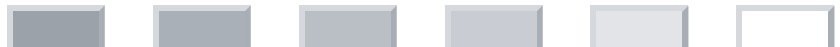
I am setting before you is to take a leadership role in this project. Get ready to ‘run.’”

And now, behold, the cry of the sons of Israel has come to Me; furthermore, I have seen the oppression with which the Egyptians are oppressing them. Therefore, come now, and I will send you to Pharaoh, so that you may bring My people, the sons of Israel, out of Egypt.
Exodus 3:9-10

Look how Moses responded.

But Moses said to God, “Who am I, that I should go to Pharaoh, and that I should bring the sons of Israel out of Egypt?”
Exodus 3:11

It's as if Moses glanced over one shoulder, then the other, and said, “Who me? Are you asking me? Surely you mean someone else.”





Seven Reasons to Run the Race

Though it was hard for Moses to comprehend, God had plans to accomplish great things through him. At the time God gave this directive, Moses was a shepherd “to the west side of the wilderness” (Exodus 3:1). Talk about “small places” and out of the spotlight! No one else would have given this sheep herder, who hadn’t been heard from in years, a second thought. An acquaintance might have remarked, “Oh, yeah. The last I heard, Moses was wandering around somewhere in the wilderness with a bunch of sheep.”

Moses certainly had no plans to sign up for this massive moving project, and there was no way he was planning to become its leader. But God’s plans prevail.

Moses realized his potential when he obeyed God and became His fellow_____.

How does knowing that God has given you potential beyond your own abilities stretch your sense of purpose when you are on the job?

A large rectangular area with a torn bottom edge, containing horizontal lines for writing.

TIME OUT



Our dreams, like the disciples’, are always too small. We are here to fulfill *God’s* dream—that *we will bring Him glory through a remarkably abundant life*. That’s how we find our greatest personal fulfillment, now and for eternity.¹⁹

Bruce Wilkinson, author and speaker

