Dear Lexie,

As I mentioned to you in the last edition of the eWeekend, Washington Adventist University recently held its annual WISE or Week of Spiritual Emphasis. In case you have forgotten, the theme for the week was Get in the Race. For the entire week I shared with the campus from various scriptures that encompass the idea of the Christian journey as being in a race. Each day I shared simple lessons that scripture has extricated from this athletic competition that we can apply to our lives so that we might run this race more effectively.

...(read more below)

Out of all the New Testament contributors, the apostle Paul has a great deal to say on this issue. In Philippians 3:13 he says: "Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead." Here Paul gives us a very important lesson to winning the race that God has called us to run. Just as in a race in an athletic competition, if our goal is to cross the finish line and win the prize, then our focus needs to be on what lies ahead not what's behind. His counsel to us as spiritual runners is to "forget what is behind." I'm not sure that Paul means that we should actually put these things out of our minds, although this is becoming increasingly easier for me to do with time. But what I believe he is saying...
is that we need to close the door on these things. And by things, I think Paul is suggesting that whatever or whomever is in our past that will cause us to take our focus off the goal that is before us, we need to shut the door to it.

The question that we need to ask ourselves is, "what is in my past that might serve as a distraction from me finishing the race?" For some it could be their past sins and failures. For others it might be relationships with "toxic" people. While for others it might even be past successes that have caused them to become too proud to the point where they begin to take their eyes off God as the source of their blessing.

I challenge you today to look to the past one last time, for the purpose of shutting the door on it. And once you have shut the door, then I challenge you to do as Paul suggests, and that is to strain forward toward the prize that God has set aside for you!

**Pastor Charles A. Tapp**
Senior Pastor

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**Project Top Grade**

At the Church Business Meeting on Tuesday, May 3, Sligo Church voted for Sligo Adventist School (SAS) and Sligo Seventh-day Adventist Church to partner with the Commonweal Foundation and the Potomac Conference in donating funds to update Sligo School's physical facilities and improve the overall educational experience. As a result of the generous gifts of over a million dollars from Commonweal Foundation and the Potomac Conference, funds will be made available for a new HVAC, fire alarm system, fire doors, new windows and other needed repairs, plus provide professional development for teachers and special tutoring for students. Our part is to provide scholarships for needy students. SAS and Sligo Church will be expected to raise $350,000 to be placed in a special scholarship fund for students who otherwise would not be able to afford a Christian education.

We invite you to be a part of this investment in our children by placing your funds in the Giving Envelope, and marking it Project "TOP GRADE," which stands for Project Takoma Park: Guaranteeing Revitalized Adventist Education. For more information about this project, please call Principal Larry Rich at (240) 464-7054. Or give online here.
October 8
Charles A. Tapp

Worship Services every Saturday:
First Service - 8:45am
Sabbath School - 10:00am
Sabbath Celebration - 11:15am

Please consider giving a gift to Sligo. Your tax-deductible gifts will help enable us to provide environments both locally and globally. Learn more about giving here.

Sign up now to be included in Sligo's new Pictorial Directory! Sign up here.

QUICK LINKS

BULLETIN
SLIGO ADVENTIST SCHOOL NEWSPAPER

Join Our Mailing List

We hope you found this week's e-weekend newsletter helpful. If there is anything else you would like to see included, we appreciate your feedback. Just email us to sligo@sligochurch.org. We will continue to send this out on a weekly basis. Remember, you may choose to unsubscribe for any reason at any time, though, we hope you won't!

May God continue to richly bless you!