

# Where You Start

Just as the apostle Paul often used athletic comparisons to describe a person's spiritual journey, so Operation Starting Line builds its materials upon the foundation of the theme of "running a race."

The key Bible passage for Operation Starting Line is Hebrews 12:1-3: *"Such a large crowd of witnesses is all around us! So we must get rid of everything that slows us down, especially the sin that just won't let go. And **we must be determined to run the race that is ahead of us.** We must keep our eyes on Jesus, who leads us and makes our faith complete. He endured the shame of being nailed to a cross, because he knew later on he would be glad he did. Now he is seated at the right side of God's throne! So keep your mind on Jesus, who put up with many insults from sinners. Then you won't get discouraged and give up."*

## To "run a good race," we must know:



**1. Our Focus/Goal:** Keep our eyes on Jesus Who leads us and completes our faith. *(What are you discovering about Jesus as the Master Trainer and Coach?)*



**2. Our Condition:** Get rid of everything that slows us down, every sin that won't let go. *(Are you aware of any hindrances or sins that could prevent your spiritual growth?)*



**3. Our Task:** Be determined to run the race that is ahead of us. *(What do you think God is saying to you about running your daily race?)*



**4. Our Motivation:** Keep our minds on Jesus so we will not get discouraged or give up. *(What is helping you to keep moving forward in your race?)*

