

Pastor's Patch



Last weekend my family and I went to watch our daughter Jessie compete in the London Marathon. It was a wonderful atmosphere on a sunny and even a historic day as the World Record was broken in under 2 hours. Sebastian Sawe finished in 1hr 59min and 30sec and as he did so he made the sign of the cross, put his hands together in a praying pose and looked to heaven. Later, his parents back in Ethiopia celebrated, thanking God for this unexpected win. They reported that not only had their son promised to help his family and community, but that he also promised to help finish building their church!

I marvelled at the physical effort of over 59,000 competitors. They had trained for weeks, were competing in warm conditions, many (including my daughter) were even nursing injuries, pain and certainly blisters. Most ran to raise money for charities or to raise the profile of their organisations. Some ran in costume as a tooth, a microphone, a brain, or as superheroes: one Devon competitor even ran with a fridge strapped to his back! But the crowd played their part too. They cheered on runners and shouted encouragement, organisers had stationed individuals with megaphones to name and enthuse any runners who looked in need of a boost, and drumming groups and bands gave rhythm for the runners.

The apostle Paul loved using the image of running on several occasions.
He wrote in 1 Corinthians ch9 v24-5

Run in such a way as to get the prize. 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 for ever.

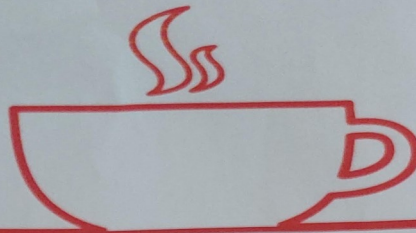
Paul wanted to inspire courage and self-discipline for the believers. In one sense he was leading by example, for he himself was running the same race and was inspired by Jesus as his Saviour. In another sense he was cheering encouragement to them from the side-lines, reminding them of an eternally lasting crown for those who persevered hoping that they would endure the pain, the injuries, the insults and hurts that attended them as they followed Jesus.

The same's true for us in our race of faith. At times it will hurt, it may seem easier to give up or turn away, but keep on to the end and claim your prize in Christ, and on the way you will be helping to build God's church.

Darrell Holmes

**Coffee for
Christian Aid**

**You're
invited!**



Coffee & Lunch

Saturday 9th May

10am- 2pm

Lunches served from 12noon

at

The Christian Community Centre
Fore Street Brixham

Plants, cakes & Bric a Brac
also on sale

Big Brekkie & Coffee

Saturday 16th May

8am – 12noon

Breakfasts served until 10am

at

The Christian Community Centre
Fore Street Brixham

Plants, cakes & Bric a Brac
also on sale

Make a difference this Christian Aid week

All welcome, bring a friend.

We're raising funds for Christian Aid to help people in poverty around the world. We'd love you to join us!

Our focus this year is on Kenya and it's people !



Your gift can change lives! Find out more at
caid.org.uk or christianaid.ie

Any donations of cakes, plants, etc would be
much appreciated....thank you!!!

BREAKFAST AT JUDY'S (3 Cumber Close)

Tuesday 12th May

9am

Full cooked breakfast

(Please book your place)

CHURCH SERVICE : Sunday 17th May at 5.00pm

Christian Community Centre