

**A Study in Galatians**  
**Galatians 5: 5-12**

Paul says salvation is by faith alone.

Now Paul Shares some facts about faith.

**Paul asks us to consider...**

- The \_\_\_\_\_ of faith
  
- The \_\_\_\_\_ of faith
  
- The \_\_\_\_\_ of faith

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**Message Application:**

Have you ever heard of Rose Ruiz and her accomplishment?  
In 1980, Ruiz was working as a secretary at a commodities trading firm in Manhattan when she stunned the running world by being the first woman to cross the finish line in Boston in 2 hours, 31 minutes and 56 seconds. It would have been the third-fastest time ever recorded by a woman in a marathon. However, suspicions about her victory arose immediately. Spotters had not seen her at checkpoints along the 26-mile course.  
Rosie Ruiz's name became synonymous with cheating when Boston Marathon officials vacated her victory in the 1980 race after determining that she had sneaked into it about a mile from the finish line.

Facts taken from:

*<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/08/08/sports/rosie-ruiz-boston-marathon-dead.html>*

Wow! What a cheater! In life we face all kinds of cheats. When you're a child it's the kid who cuts in front of you at the water fountain or your older brother who changed the rules of a game to win. As grown-ups we continue to come across the people who want something for nothing or want to make their own way by their own rules.

We view these terrible people with disgust and thank God that we are a better type of person than them. However my friend we better make sure we are not cheating in a different way. We may not cut in line or cheat on our taxes; but are we being honest in who we are trusting to make us people of eternal quality.

At the end of the day, when we put all the games back in their boxes or have to face the fact that the dash between our birth date and the date of our death is much shorter than we hoped; will we have run the race trusting in Christ?

Today's lesson is a simple one. Just examine the answer to these questions:

1. Have I been running life's race depending on my own strength and effort?
2. Did I start out strong with my goal to be like Jesus, only to be cut off by bad habits, bad company, or bad beliefs?
3. Am I ready to run life's race with my eyes on Jesus?

Are you ready to run in the power of Jesus' love in faith? Have a great talk with him today. If you would like help and prayer leave me an email on our website.

Peace & Grace,

Wm. Lyons