

AVOIDING GIANT ROADBLOCKS

Dear Friend:

I don't know anyone who likes roadblocks. Do you like roadblocks? Live around Columbus long enough and you will encounter plenty of roadblocks – leading to detours. Right now I am so frustrated. I cannot go west on Central College Road, not because of one roadblock but because of two! Roadblocks can be frustrating, roadblocks to our faith can be devastating!

The writer of Hebrews gives us four frustrations in Chapter 12 about how to avoid roadblocks to our faith. First, realize the “race marked out for us” is well worn. Hebrews 11 is the faith hall of fame chapter listing many who maintained a strong faith. You can probably think of some relatives in your own family who “kept the faith.” The track is well worn. Second instruction, remove any distractions. A runner who runs a race with weights or gazes up into the stands is doomed. We will be also if we allow the distraction of this world to take our attention off the race. Third: Remain focused on Jesus. This is connected to the previous instruction, but it is different as well. Our race of faith is not a sprint, it is a marathon – a lifelong race. Focus on this: Jesus is right beside you and in front of you all the way. Fourth: Discipline has a purpose. Hebrews 12 speaks about discipline and sometimes along the race God disciplines us. 90 years ago in my high school Cross Country days if we ever goofed off in a race or spent time chatting with teammates during the race we would pay for it at the next practice. Why? Because our coach wanted us to be the best we could be. Discipline from God is always for our betterment.

Throughout our lifetime in Christ we will encounter roadblocks. Know Hebrews 12 well and how to avoid roadblocks and you will cross the finish line at a full sprint. I want to finish my well, how about you?

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Mike

Prayer: Norma Willis family at her death on Monday, Viewing Friday 2 – 4 & 6 – 8 pm at Schoedinger-Gahanna, Funeral Saturday 9:30 am at the Church, Nanci Bear (cancer), Pearl Ward, Joyce Brockman, COVID-19 suffers, COVID-19 vaccine

Events: New Albany Presbyterian Church V.B.S. July 27th-31st, 9:00 am-12:00 pm. Space is limited sign-up at their website today!