

But after we are saved the Lord wants us to accomplish something for Him. He wants our lives to count for something in His kingdom. He wants us to build up a record of achievement, not for our glory, but for His glory. He wants us to have something to show. He wants us to be good, but not to be good for nothing. He wants us to be good for something. He wants results, and Paul says, "So run, that ye may obtain." He wants us in our Christian life and in our Christian Service to bring results. It is true that God judges us by faithfulness, not by results, but it is also true that if we are truly faithful, we do have results, we cannot help it, if we are truly faithful. And so in the little time we have this morning, I want to think a little bit of what this means to us. "So run that ye may obtain." I talked with a man one time who said to me, My, it must be grand to be connected with a theological seminary. He said, I suppose everybody's very good there, everybody's very good and very kind, and it must be lovely to be with people of that kind. And he said, of course you would never think of funking anybody in a theological seminary. Well, I said, We not only think of it, but we do it. I said that we are not simply interested in being kind and gracious, we are interested in accomplishing things. And we believe the Lord has a standard of work for us to accomplish, and that He wants us to dig and work and accomplish it. "So run that ye may obtain." You can't go out in a race without practicing beforehand. You can't accomplish much. It is very rare that anybody wins a race who has not practiced and struggled, and worked in order to learn how to do it, in order to gain the prize for which he is running. And the prize which we desire is the advancement of the glory of God. The winning of souls to the knowledge of salvation. The advancement of the purposes that Christ has in mind. So run that you may obtain that you may make progress in this, that you may get some results. Why do people go to school? Because it is required, it is the law, that's why most of them do. Why do they go to high school? Well, because they have to graduate to get to college in many cases. Why do they go to college? It is necessary before they can go to graduate school. And why do they go to graduate school? Because you have to have your degree before you can get a certificate to practice your profession. Well, all that is true. But if you simply take that motive, and no