

MSG: RUN YOUR RACE

SCRIPTURE: JEREMIAH 12:1-6 NLT

SZN 2: RUN WITH JESUS

Jeremiah 12:1-6 NLT

“Lord, you always give me justice when I bring a case before you. So let me bring you this complaint: Why are the wicked so prosperous? Why are evil people so happy? You have planted them, and they have taken root and prospered. Your name is on their lips, but you are far from their hearts. But as for me, Lord, you know my heart. You see me and test my thoughts. Drag these people away like sheep to be butchered! Set them aside to be slaughtered! How long must this land mourn? Even the grass in the fields has withered. The wild animals and birds have disappeared because of the evil in the land. For the people have said, “The Lord doesn’t see what’s ahead for us!” “If racing against mere men makes you tired, how will you race against horses? If you stumble and fall on open ground, what will you do in the thickets near the Jordan? Even your brothers, members of your own family, have turned against you. They plot and raise complaints against you. Do not trust them, no matter how pleasantly they speak.”

1. YOUR BEEF IS WITH THE ENEMY NOT YOUR HATER.

Jeremiah 12:1 NLT

“Lord, you always give me justice when I bring a case before you. So let me bring you this complaint: Why are the wicked so prosperous? Why are evil people so happy?”

BEEFIN’ WITH FOLK IS JUST MISDIRECTED ATTENTION

Ephesians 6:12 NASB

“For our struggle is not against flesh and blood...

BEEFIN' WITH FOLK IS JUST WASTED ENERGY

Ephesians 6:12

...but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places."

2. YOUR RACE IS MADE FOR GOD'S GLORY AND YOUR SUCCESS

Jeremiah 12:2-3 NLT

"You have planted them, and they have taken root and prospered. Your name is on their lips, but you are far from their hearts. But as for me, Lord, you know my heart. You see me and test my thoughts. Drag these people away like sheep to be butchered! Set them aside to be slaughtered!"

THEY NOT LIKE US, YOUR RACE IS DIFFERENT.

Jeremiah 12:5 NLT

"If racing against mere men makes you tired, how will you race against horses? If you stumble and fall on open ground, what will you do in the thickets near the Jordan?"

-They're running after the bag, we're running to bear our Cross!

-They're chasing paper, we're chasing purpose!

-They're running away from themselves, we're running after God!

They Not like us!

SUCCESS IS...

...LOVING GOD!

...BECOMING LIKE JESUS!

...LOVING PEOPLE!

THEY NOT LIKE US, SO WHY ARE YOU TRYING TO BE LIKE THEM.

1 Peter 2:8-9 NLT

They stumble because they do not obey God's word, and so they meet the fate that was planned for them. But you are not like that, for you are a chosen people. You are royal priests, a holy nation, God's very own possession. As a result, you can show others the goodness of God, for he called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light."

SUCCESS IS...

...FULFILLING THE GREAT COMMISSION!

...GLORIFYING GOD!

...ENJOYING GOD!

They Not Like Us!

3. YOUR FAMILY MATTERS WILL SLOW YOU DOWN

Jeremiah 12:6 CSB

"Even your brothers — your own father's family — even they were treacherous to you; even they have cried out loudly after you. Do not have confidence in them, though they speak well of you."

YOUR OBEDIENCE TO JESUS MUST OVERRIDE YOUR FAMILIES UNGODLY VALUES

Matthew 12:48-50 CSB

"He replied to the one who was speaking to him, "Who is my mother and who are my brothers?" Stretching out his hand toward his disciples, he said, "Here

are my mother and my brothers! For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother.””

YOUR GOD’S UNLIMITED POWER OVERCOMES YOUR FAMILIES LIMITING MATTERS

-Even Jeremiah had some Family Matters that he needed to be reminded

-Your family matters can limit who God wants you to become and what He wants to do through you!

-Dont let their limitations become your limitations

4. YOUR WORSHIP WILL BRING YOU EUPHORIA

SOMETIMES YOU GOTTA POP OUT AND SHOW PEOPLE, HOW GREAT YOUR GOD IS!

Psalms 145:1-4 NLT

“I will exalt you, my God and King, and praise your name forever and ever. I will praise you every day; yes, I will praise you forever. Great is the Lord! He is most worthy of praise! No one can measure his greatness. Let each generation tell its children of your mighty acts; let them proclaim your power.”

SOMETIMES GOD GOTTA POP OUT AND SHOW PEOPLE, HE IS WITH YOU!

2 Chronicles 20:15-17 NLT

“He said, “Listen, all you people of Judah and Jerusalem! Listen, King Jehoshaphat! This is what the Lord says: Do not be afraid! Don’t be discouraged by this mighty army, for the battle is not yours, but God’s. Tomorrow, march out against them. You will find them coming up through the

ascent of Ziz at the end of the valley that opens into the wilderness of Jeruel. But you will not even need to fight. Take your positions; then stand still and watch the Lord's victory. He is with you, O people of Judah and Jerusalem. Do not be afraid or discouraged. Go out against them tomorrow, for the Lord is with you!"

YOUR WEAPON IS YOUR WORSHIP

...SO RUN YOUR RACE!