



LAKE GENEVA YOUTH CAMP

**THE GOSPEL:****The Greatest Victory in The Great Race**

Imagine you are in The Great Race—but there's a big problem. No matter how hard you try, you can't reach the finish line on your own. There are obstacles in the way—sin (the wrong things we do) keeps us from reaching God.

But here's the good news: Jesus, the perfect Son of God, entered the race for us! He never sinned, but He took our place, paying the price for our mistakes when He died on the cross. Three days later, He rose from the dead, defeating sin and death forever.

Now, because of Jesus, we don't have to lose the race. When we trust in Him, He forgives us, gives us a new heart, and promises that we will cross the finish line into eternal life with Him. The victory is already won!

**All we have to do is:**

Admit that we are sinners and need Jesus.  
Believe that Jesus died and rose again to save us.  
Commit to following Him as the leader of our life.

When we do this, we become part of God's race team, running with Him every day until we reach the finish line—eternal life with Jesus!

Are you ready to join The Great Race and follow Jesus? The checkered flag is waiting—say YES to Him today!

**DAY 1: THE RACE HAS STARTED—ARE YOU IN?**

**Scripture:** Hebrews 12:1 – “Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.”

**DEVOTIONAL THOUGHT:**

Every race has a starting line. No driver wins a race by watching from the sidelines—they commit, push the pedal, and go. Your relationship with Jesus is the same. Maybe you've been around church your whole life. Maybe you believe in God but feel stuck. Or maybe you've never fully committed to following Jesus.

But here's the truth: Faith isn't a spectator sport. Jesus calls you to run the race—to trust Him, follow Him, and surrender your life to Him. Are you in?

**Challenge Questions:**

1. Have you truly committed to following Jesus, or are you still on the sidelines?
2. What's holding you back from going all-in for Him?
3. What's one step you can take this week to actively run your race with Jesus?

**Prayer:**

Jesus, I don't want to sit on the sidelines. I want to run this race for You. Help me commit fully to following You, no matter what. Amen.

## DAY 2: DROP THE WEIGHT—RUN FREELY

**Scripture:** Hebrews 12:1b – “Let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles.”

### DEVOTIONAL THOUGHT:

Imagine running a race with a backpack full of bricks. No matter how strong you are, the weight will slow you down.

Sin does the same thing in our lives. When we hold onto jealousy, gossip, lust, pride, or bitterness, we're dragging extra weight. It keeps us from running freely.

Jesus offers freedom. But you have to be willing to drop the weight. Let go of sin. Surrender what's holding you back. Run with everything you've got.

### Challenge Questions:

1. What sins or distractions are weighing you down in your walk with Christ?
2. Why do you think it's hard to let go of certain things, even when you know they hurt your faith?
3. How can you take action today to release those things to God?

### Prayer:

Jesus, show me what's holding me back. Give me the strength to let go of sin and run freely in Your grace. Amen.

## DAY 3: STICK TO THE TRACK

**Scripture:** Proverbs 3:5-6 – “Trust in the Lord with all your heart... and He will make your paths straight.”

### DEVOTIONAL THOUGHT:

Race cars follow a track. If they drift off course, they crash. If they try to take shortcuts, they lose.

Life works the same way. God has a path for you, but it requires trusting Him, even when you don't understand where He's leading.

It's tempting to take shortcuts—to compromise your faith for popularity, relationships, or success. But shortcuts lead to dead ends. Stay on the track. Trust God's way. It's the only way to win.

### Challenge Questions:

1. Have you ever felt like God's path didn't make sense? What did you do?
2. What “shortcuts” are tempting you right now?
3. How can you fully trust God's direction for your life?

### Prayer:

God, even when I don't understand, help me trust You. Keep me on Your path and give me faith to follow You completely. Amen.

**DAY 4: FUEL UP—YOU CAN'T RUN ON EMPTY**

**Scripture:** Matthew 4:4 - “Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.”

**DEVOTIONAL THOUGHT:**

A race car without fuel is useless. It might look impressive, but it won't move.

You can't run your race without fuel either. And your fuel is God's Word.

Too many Christians try to run on empty—they go to church but never read their Bible, they say they follow Jesus but never talk to Him. If you want to stay in the race, you need to fill up daily.

**Challenge Questions:**

1. How much time do you actually spend in God's Word?
2. What changes can you make to fuel up spiritually every day?
3. Why do you think so many people try to follow Jesus without staying connected to Him?

**Prayer:**

Lord, I need You. Help me to stay in Your Word, stay in prayer, and fill up on what I need to run this race well. Amen.

**DAY 5: STOP COMPARING—RUN YOUR RACE**

**Scripture:** Galatians 6:4 - “Each one should test their own actions. Then they can take pride in themselves alone, without comparing themselves to someone else.”

**DEVOTIONAL THOUGHT:**

In racing, you don't win by watching someone else's lane.

Comparison is a trap. It either makes you feel prideful (“I'm better than them”) or insecure (“I'll never be as good as them”). Either way, it distracts you from your race.

God has a unique race just for you. Stop looking at other people. Run your race.

**Challenge Questions:**

1. Where do you struggle with comparison in your life?
2. How does comparison distract you from your relationship with Jesus?
3. How can you shift your focus back to running your own race?

**Prayer:**

Jesus, help me stop comparing. You made me unique, and I want to run my race for You alone. Amen.

## DAY 6: EYES ON THE FINISH LINE

**Scripture:** Philippians 3:14 – “I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.”

### DEVOTIONAL THOUGHT:

A race car driver never takes their eyes off the finish line.

In life, distractions will try to pull you away from Jesus—temptation, struggles, doubts, success, failure. But the only way to finish strong is to keep your eyes on the prize: Jesus.

Stay focused. Keep pressing forward. No matter what, don't quit.

### Challenge Questions:

1. What are the biggest distractions in your faith right now?
2. How can you stay focused on Jesus when life gets hard?
3. What does it mean to run with perseverance?

### Prayer:

Jesus, I want to finish strong. Help me to keep my eyes on You no matter what. Amen.

## DAY 7: THE VICTORY IS ALREADY WON

**Scripture:** 1 Corinthians 15:57 – “But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

### DEVOTIONAL THOUGHT:

Here's the best news: Jesus already won.

You don't have to run perfectly. You don't have to win on your own strength. Jesus ran the race for you—and He won.

Now, you get to run with confidence, knowing the victory is already yours.

### Final Challenge:

Will you run your race for the glory of Jesus?

### Prayer:

Jesus, thank You for winning the victory for me! Help me to run my race with joy and finish strong. Amen!

## AFTER CAMP RESOURCES:

### Keep Racing with Jesus!

The Great Race doesn't end when camp is over—it's just the beginning!

At camp, you learned how to run the race of faith by trusting Jesus, staying on His path, and keeping your eyes on Him. Now that you're back home, the race continues! Just like a race car needs fuel, a track, and a team, you need the Bible, prayer, and Christian friends to keep going strong.

### How to Stay in the Race:

- Refuel Daily – Read your Bible and pray to keep your heart full of God's truth.
- Stay on Track – Follow Jesus by making good choices and obeying His Word.
- Race with a Team – Stay connected to church, youth group, and Christian friends.
- Keep Your Eyes on the Prize – Remember, the goal is to know Jesus more and follow Him every day!

Your Challenge: Keep Running Strong!

Camp may be over, but your faith journey is not. Visit our After Camp Resource Page ([link](#)) for devotionals, Bible reading plans, and ways to stay connected with Jesus.

FOR MORE RESOURCES  
CHECK OUT OUR AFTER  
CAMP PAGE



[lgyc.org  
/after-camp-resources](https://lgyc.org/after-camp-resources)

**NOTES**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**NOTES**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

