

What is a metaphor?

Suddenly back in the classroom. But we have those verses from Paul

Where he uses images, references to sport/athletics. As signs give us an idea of the sport/event so metaphors dig a bit deeper.

Here are the usual references.

1 Timothy 4:7-8      1 Corth 9: 24 – 27

2 Timothy 4:7 - 9      Hebrews 12:1-2      Galatians 5:7

Where he uses images, references to sport/athletics. As signs give us an idea of the sport/event so metaphors dig a bit deeper. What are the underlying truths.

1. Be aware of diversions away from sound teaching, hold on to the basics - especially these days with so much information through the internet etc., need to reflect on everything we hear or read and the Bible encourage us to test – how does this fit in with the rest of my beliefs , how does it sit with my soul. We often get carried away with new things (fad of the year), or the blame game – deep state, the media. Why be wary - because it effects our whole witness and this is part of the race, not just about our personal pilgrimage but about the mission of God, proclaiming salvation through Jesus.
2. The encouragement for strict training. We will have heard of how athlete/swimming got up early the morning to train before the work day began, the support of family, friends, sponsors, rest as well, going to specialist training camps. So for our faith - the Bible,, prayer, fellowship, conferences, sharing in bread and wine; develop, spiritual reflection, renew etc., The Christian pilgrimage is for life. (How long a Christian?)
3. There is a goal in sight. We fix our eyes upon Jesus, eternal life starts as we become believers. To serve Jesus, to live lives worthy of our calling. As we look to Jesus so we point others towards Him.

Some of the competitors only want to get to the Olympics, others wanted to reach a final, others wanted gold. Often get ministers/leaders who want to grow a big church (600), build a big building – can miss the calling, miss the goal, miss the medal

Can you identify with this metaphor, can you use it to assist your pilgrimage with God as a believer. Go and look at these passages, see where they come in the narrative, read and meditate, ask God to speak