They Ran

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Abraham

Genesis 18:2-So he lifted his eyes and looked, and behold, three men were standing by him; and when he saw them, he ran from the tent door to meet them, and bowed himself to the ground…

Run To Show Kindness

Hebrews 13:1-2-Let brotherly love continue. 2 Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by so doing some have unwittingly entertained angels.

*1 Peter 4:8-10-And above all things have fervent love for one another, for "LOVE WILL COVER A MULTITUDE OF SINS." **9** Be hospitable to one another without grumbling. **10** As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.*

Esau

Genesis 33:4-But Esau ran to meet him, and embraced him, and fell on his neck and kissed him, and they wept.

Run To Restore Relationships That Need Restored

Matthew 5:23-24-Therefore if you bring your gift to the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against

you, 24 leave your gift there before the altar, and go your way. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.

Romans 12:18-If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men.

David

1 Samuel 17:48-So it was, when the Philistine arose and came and drew near to meet David, that David hurried and ran toward the army to meet the Philistine.

Run To Fight The Good Fight Of Faith

Matthew 16:13, 18-When Jesus came into the region of Caesarea Philippi, He asked

His disciples, saying, "Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am? …And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.

The theological messaging couldn't be more dramatic. Jesus says the "gates of hell" will not prevail against the church. We often think of this phrase as though God's people are in a posture of having to bravely fend off Satan and his demons. This simply isn't correct. Gates are defensive structures, not offensive weapons. The kingdom of God is the aggressor. Jesus goes to ground zero in biblical demonic geography to announce that Bashan will be defeated. It is the gates of hell that are under assault—and they will not hold up against the church. Hell

has no claim on those who align themselves with Jesus. He will reverse the curse of death and His own will rise on account of Him. (Michael S. Heiser, Reversing Hermon: Enoch, the Watchers, and the Forgotten Mission of Jesus Christ, 95-96 (Kindle Edition): Crane, MO: Defender Publishing)

2 Timothy 1:7-For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.

2 Timothy 4:6-8-For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure is at hand. 7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. 8 Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the

righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.

The Father

Luke 15:20-And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him.

Run To The Penitent

Deuteronomy 21:18-21-If a man has a stubborn and rebellious son who will not obey the voice of his father or the voice of his mother, and who, when they have chastened him, will not heed them,
19 *then his father and his mother shall*

take hold of him and bring him out to the elders of his city, to the gate of his city.
20 *And they shall say to the elders of his city, 'This son of ours is stubborn and rebellious; he will not obey our voice; he is a glutton and a drunkard.'* ***21*** *Then all the men of his city shall stone him to death with stones; so you shall put away the evil from among you, and all Israel shall hear and fear.*

Jonah

Jonah 1:3 (GW)-Jonah immediately tried to run away from the LORD by going to Tarshish. He went to Joppa and found a ship going to Tarshish. He paid for the trip and went on board. He wanted to go to Tarshish to get away from the LORD.

Run To Where God's Word Leads

Samaritan Woman

John 4:28-29 (CEV)-The woman left her water jar and ran back into town. She said to the people, ***29*** *"Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! Could he be the Messiah?"*

Run To Tell Others About Jesus

Mary, Peter, And John

John 20:1-8-Now the first day of the week Mary Magdalene went to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. ***2*** *Then she ran and came to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple, whom Jesus*

loved, and said to them, "They have taken away the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid Him."
3 *Peter therefore went out, and the other disciple, and were going to the tomb.* *4* *So they both ran together, and the other disciple outran Peter and came to the tomb first.* *5* *And he, stooping down and looking in, saw the linen cloths lying there; yet he did not go in.* *6* *Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb; and he saw the linen cloths lying there,* *7* *and the handkerchief that had been around His head, not lying with the linen cloths, but folded together in a place by itself.* *8* *Then the other disciple, who came to the tomb first, went in also; and he saw and believed.*

Run To Jesus The Source Of Our Faith

That was also the assessment of Sir Lionel Luckhoo, the brilliant and savvy attorney whose astounding 245 consecutive murder acquittals earned him a place in The Guinness Book of World Records as the world's most successful lawyer. 4 Knighted twice by Queen Elizabeth, this former justice and diplomat subjected the historical facts about the resurrection to his own rigorous analysis for several years before declaring, "I say unequivocally that the evidence for the resurrection of Jesus Christ is so overwhelming that it compels acceptance by proof which leaves absolutely no room for doubt." 5. (Lee Strobel, Case for Christ Movie Edition: Solving the Biggest Mystery of All Time, 276-277 (Kindle Edition): Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan)

Frank Morison, a lawyer, is surely one of the best examples of a scholar who became convinced against his earlier convictions after studying the evidence for the resurrection. As a young man, Morison began a serious study of the life of Jesus, being much influenced by the works of German liberal scholarship. He did not accept the miracles in Jesus' life and was determined to remove what he felt were mythical outgrowths. Ten years after his first studies he received the opportunity to study the life of Jesus in depth. An examination of the last week of Jesus' life in particular brought him to a study of the resurrection. However, in endeavoring to write a book exposing these myths which he thought he would find, he was compelled by the factual evidence to write

quite a different book in favor of the resurrection. This work, entitled Who Moved the Stone?, became a defense of the resurrection against the theological views formerly held by Morison himself. He explains that it was because of his investigation of the facts that he reversed his former views and that caused him to realize not only that the resurrection occurred, but that it could be demonstrated. 24 The late Simon Greenleaf, past Harvard professor of law and one of the greatest legal minds that America has ever produced, was a religious skeptic. Challenged by his students to apply the techniques of his legal masterpiece A Treatise on the Law of Evidence to the resurrection of Jesus, Greenleaf became a believer. He later wrote a book, the long title of which is An

Examination of the Testimony of the Four Evangelists by the Rules of Evidence Administered in the Courts of Justice. 25 In this work he defends the resurrection and explains how, when judged by the laws of legal evidence, this event can be demonstrated to have actually occurred. 26 Another scholar who was convinced by an examination of the evidence is medical doctor Viggo Olsen. He described himself as an agnostic who did not believe in the Supernatural elements of Christianity. But more than this, he constantly questioned the Christian faith and attempted to disprove it. Through the process of trying to expose these beliefs, he studied the resurrection and other evidences. Later he became convinced that God did exist and that there was more than a sufficient amount of demonstration for the

resurrection. He realized that this event actually occurred and that as such it was the center of the Christian faith. It is noteworthy that Simon Greenleaf's book on the Christian evidences was a key influence on Olsen. 27 Other scholars who have looked impartially at the facts have often likewise concluded that the evidence for the resurrection establishes it as a historical event. For instance, such was the conclusion of lawyer Sir Edward Clarke, KC, who also investigated the resurrection in terms of the evidential aspect. He remarked that this factual support was conclusive, as he had often secured a positive verdict in courts of law with less evidence. 28 McDowell lists numerous other instances where other scholars came to similar conclusions after an impartial examination of the facts. 29. (Gary

Habermas, Risen Indeed: A Historical Investigation Into the Resurrection of Jesus, 264-265 (Kindle Edition): Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press)

Conclusion:

1. Run To Show Kindness
2. Run To Restore Relationships That Need To Be Restored
3. Run To Fight The Good Fight Of Faith
4. Run To The Penitent
5. Run To Where God's Word Leads
6. Run To Tell Others About Jesus
7. Run To Jesus The Source Of Our Faith

Acts 22:16-And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord.'

Revelation 3:20-Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.