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**Fellowship of Companies for Christ
 Greater Hartford Chapter
 May 20, 2015**

- Welcome! Opening prayer and praise reports
- **Today's topic: Pressing In and Pressing On**



If thou faint in the day of adversity, thy strength is small.

–Proverbs 24:10

The Lord has a sense of humor. Time after time, instead of buying new books at a retail store or online, I come across the most fascinating and helpful books in the most peculiar places: tag sales, Traveler Restaurant in Union, Ocean State Job Lot, etc. For example, I recently purchased a \$19 book for \$3 at Big Lots named *“Losers and Winners, Saints and Sinners: How to Finish Strong in the Spiritual Race”* written by Greg Laurie, founder of Harvest Crusades. WOW! It was just the book I needed at this time.

In this book, Laurie studies the lives of various people in the Bible (those who didn't finish strong and those who did, and those in-between) including Moses, Caleb, Enoch, Elijah, Samson, King Saul, David, Solomon, Joseph, the Apostle Paul and Peter. If you have a heart to finish your race, here are some tips:

- Follow the Lord 100%: give Him everything you've got. Don't hold back.
- Don't compromise: stand your ground, even if you ruffle feathers or worse.
- Take God at His Word: patiently endure, even if it takes a lot longer to come to pass.
- Always look forward: while his peers were yawning, Caleb was yearning.
- Keep your appointments with God: be faithful in the little and the big things.
- Be a giver, not a taker. Be a forgiver, not a resenter.
- Don't let lust and/or pride defeat you in the race of life.
- Boldly go on the attack: have backbone. Be courageous and step forward by faith.
- Get your giant out of hiding and into the light of day.
- Periodically ask if things are weights or wings. Jettison those things that pull you back and RUN.
- Don't isolate yourself. Stay connected with God and fellow believers.

Evaluate yourself from 1 (weak) to 10 (strong) in terms of running your race	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Why did you give yourself this rating?										
What benefits might you enjoy by running your race more consistently?										
What specific actions can you take to do that?										

- Next meeting: June 3 “This Is My Story” breakfast. Speaker TBD.
- Upcoming events/news: Sidewalk Prophets tonight!
- Closing prayer