

Lord,

This is not the race I imagined.
It is certainly not the race I wanted.

It is not romantic or heroic.
It is brutally painful and dark and lonely.

I need your strength to persevere.
I am too weak and broken for this.

I need you.

I want to run this race and finish
with dignity and grace,
attesting to your strength within me.
If you are truly near to the broken-hearted
be near to me today.

Amen.

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Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. Let us run with perseverance the race set before us.

Hebrew 12:1