

Series Name: 'The 24 Things That You Are Doing Right and How To Use Those Things To Deepen Your Relationship with Christ

Month: November 2009

Message: The Rat Race



From the book 'The Man In The Mirror': The rat race is the conflict between who I am created to be and who I am tempted to be

And maybe also 'who society says that I should be' (?)

From Wikipedia - A **rat race** is a term used for an endless, self-defeating or pointless pursuit.

Noah probably had his 'rat race': Gen 6:8 ' ... 450 feet long, 75 feet wide, 45 feet high .. Make a roof ... 18 inches ... find/bring two of every kind of animal ... all at 600 years old !

James and John – fisherman 'mending their nets' : Matt 4:18

Joseph - his whole life was a 'rat race' - Gen 37:12-36 sold by his brothers; Gen 39 imprisoned by false accusations; Gen 41 in charge of Egypt; Gen 46-47 brought Jacob and sons to Egypt

So what is the difference with them – why didn't they become 'that guy' ?



Gal 5:7-8 'You were running a good race. Who cut in on you and kept you from obeying the truth ?

What is keeping you from running the good race ?

They had a purpose or a pursuit – Joseph in Gen 39:9 (c) 'How then could I do such a wicked thing and sin against God ? Noah in Gen 6:22 'Noah did everything just as God commanded him'

They did not let anyone cut in

They were **tempted to be men of God**

Who I am tempted to be ?

Hebrews 12:2 Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God

Jackson Browne – Running on Empty

Gotta do what you can just to keep your love alive

But its easy, it does not have to be a rat race – Col 2:6-7

So then, just as you received Jesus Christ as Lord, continue to live in Him, rooted and built up in Him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught and overflowing with thankfulness

What are you going to do – this week to keep the love alive – WITHOUT adding to your rat race ?
