

# Winning the Race – Vocabulary

## A

**Abomination** – Something that is hated, disgusting, or detestable (p. 58)

**Abound** – To increase, fill, and overflow (p. 25)

**Alpha and Omega** – The first and last letters of the Greek alphabet; in the Book of Revelation, a phrase referring to God's power over all things, beginning to end (p. 137)

**Ambassador** – A messenger or representative; someone who represents another (p. 93)

**Antichrist** – Someone who is against Jesus Christ (p. 151)

**Apostle** – A "sent one"; a witness of the resurrection of Jesus (p. 128)

**Archangel** – An angel appointed over a special task; a chief angel (p. 146)

**Ark of the Covenant** – A gold-plated chest containing important items from Israel's history, including the Ten Commandments; a symbol of God's presence with His people (p. 48)

**Armageddon** – Greek for "hill of Megiddo"; in Scripture, the place where Christ destroys the armies that have gathered against Him (p. 157)

**Ascension** – The event in which one rises upward; in Scripture, Jesus' rise from Earth to heaven (p. 128)

**Atonement** – When something wrong is erased or canceled (p. 5)

## B

**Ba'al** – An Old Testament name for many local false gods; can mean "lord" or "ruler" (p. 20)

**Baptize** – To use water to symbolize someone's new relationship with God (p. 63)

**The Beatitudes** – Eight "blessings" that begin Jesus' Sermon on the Mount (p. 118)

**Beelzebub / Beelzebul** – A name used in Scripture to refer to Satan or another demon (p. 67)

**Bitterness** – Hating someone for past wrongdoing; rehearsing someone's faults in your mind (p. 38)

**Blasphemy** – Insulting God or something sacred; saying something untrue about God (p. 123)

**Blessed** – Having special favor, grace, or happiness (p. 118)

**The Book of Life** – God's record of everyone redeemed by Jesus Christ (p. 161)

## C

**Carnal** – Relating to physical desires and appetites; often relating to sinful pleasure (p. 79)

**Censer** – A bowl or container for burning incense (p. 151)

**Centurion** – A Roman military officer; traditionally commanded 100 soldiers, but often more (p. 108)

**Chaff** – The empty husks left behind after threshing grain; the useless part of the plant (p. 43)

**Commandment** – A law or rule; in Exodus, the Ten Commandments begin God's Law (p. 48)

**Confess** – To admit wrongdoing; to reveal what you believe (p. 38)

**Conform** – To become like something or someone (p. 25)

**Conscience** – Inner feelings of right or wrong; our moral sense (p. 98)

**Contentment** – Peace and gratitude for what we already have; happiness in our current state (p. 75)

**The Council / Sanhedrin** – A group of Jewish leaders who made legal and religious decisions for the people (p. 123)

**Covenant** – A binding agreement between two or more people; a promise (p. 10)

**Coveting / Envy** – Wanting something that another person has, even if it's sinful to take (p. 75)

**Crucifixion** – A method of execution; killing someone by attaching them to an upright piece of wood and leaving them to die (p. 123)

## D

**The Day of the Lord** – In Scripture, a time when God fulfills His promises in an undeniable way (p. 151)

**Deceit** – Lying; making a false statement (p. 38)

**Defile** – To corrupt; to make unholy or impure (p. 58)

**Devil** – Another name for Satan; means "liar" or "deceiver" (p. 79)

**Disciple** – A student or follower who learns from a teacher (p. 25)

**Doctrine** – An important teaching or belief, often by a religious group (p. 10)

**Doubt** – To distrust; a feeling of uncertainty or unbelief about something (p. 15)

## E

**The Elect** – In Scripture, another term for Christians; people chosen by God (p. 151)

**Envy / Coveting** – Wanting something that another person has, even if it's sinful to take (p. 75)

**Epistle** – A letter; one of the 21 letters in the New Testament (p. 5)

**Exalt** – To lift higher; to call attention to (p. 25)

## F

**The Fall** – Humanity's turn from God toward sin and death; the results of the first sin (p. 84)

**Famine** – A time when many people have very little food (p. 151)

**Fasting** – Choosing not to eat, often to focus on praying or some other spiritual activity (p. 75)

**Favor** – Special blessings or grace; goodwill (p. 34)

**Firstborn** – The first child of a husband and wife (p. 53)

**Fleece** – A coat of wool; often taken from sheep (p. 20)

**The Flesh** – The part of us that wants to sin; our mortal weakness (p. 29)

**Flog / Scourge** – To beat or lash with a whip (p. 123)

**Foolishness** – Refusing to learn; using knowledge poorly; the opposite of wisdom (p. 71)

**Foreknowledge** – To know something ahead of time; to know about an event before it happens (p. 123)

**Forerunner** – Someone who goes ahead of another, often to prepare the way (p. 63)

**Forgive** – To not hold people's wrongs or failures against them; to give up revenge (p. 38)

## G

**Gentile** – A term for someone who is not Jewish (p. 113)

**Glorify** – To give honor and praise to someone; in Scripture, to point toward God's glory (p. 25)

**Glory** – The honor, praise, or credit for being great (p. 20)

**Gospel** – "Good news" or teaching about Jesus (p. 5)

**The Great Commission** – The task Jesus gave His followers to make more disciples for Him (p. 128)

**Greed** – A desire for more than what is good or needed; the opposite of gratitude (p. 75)

## H

**Hallowed** – Set apart as special, sacred, or holy (p. 118)

**The Heart** – Used in Scripture to mean our deepest beliefs and attitudes; our core, inner self (p. 58)

**Honor** – To show great respect or reverence; to value the good in someone (p. 48)

**Hypocrite** – Someone who pretends to be better than they are; a person who contradicts their words with their actions (p. 58)

## I

**Idolatry** – The practice of worshiping idols or false gods (p. 10)

**Iniquity** – A wicked or evil action; a sin (p. 103)

**Inspiration** – The way God worked through human writers to record Scripture; “God-breathed” (p. 10)

## J

**Justice** – The state of being just, lawful, or right; fair punishment for wrongdoing (p. 53)

**Justify** – To declare that someone is innocent or righteous; to defend something as right (p. 137)

## L

**Leaven / Yeast** – A single-cell fungus used in breadmaking to help the dough rise (p. 98)

**Leprosy** – In Scripture, a term to describe diseases that could result in sores, loss of feeling, and deformities; was once untreatable (p. 108)

## M

**Magistrate** – A government official that helps apply and enforce the law (p. 29)

**Malice** – The desire to harm someone; hurtful thoughts (p. 38)

**Manna** – A bread-like food that God gave Israel in the wilderness (p. 84)

**Martyr** – Someone killed for their religious beliefs (p. 151)

**Meditate** – To think deeply and continually about something (p. 43)

**Millennium** – One thousand years; in Scripture, a time when Christ reigns physically on Earth (p. 157)

**Miracle** – A divinely-caused event that does not follow the laws of nature (p. 108)

## O

**Obey** – To do what someone else says to do; to comply or submit your will to another (p. 48)

## P

**Pagan** – Relating to a religion that worships many gods or even nature itself (p. 103)

**Parable** – A story that pictures or illustrates a lesson (p. 15)

**Passover** – A Jewish holiday celebrating the day God rescued the Israelites from Egypt (p. 103)

**Peacemaker** – A person who ends conflict in a lasting way (p. 118)

**Pentecost** – The “fiftieth day” after Easter; when the Spirit first arrived to bless the Church (p. 132)

**Persecute** – To continually oppress or mistreat people, often for their religion or ethnicity (p. 58)

**Pharisees** – A Jewish religious group that added their own rules to God’s law (p. 58)

**Plague** – A disaster for a large number of people; in Scripture, often reveals God's judgment (p. 103)

**Prophet** – Someone who shares a spiritual message (p. 5)

**Propitiation** – The act of propitiating; avoiding God's judgment for sin by offering a sacrifice (p. 103)

**Proverb** – A wise saying; a short statement that teaches a general principle (p. 71)

## R

**Rapture** – To grab or take away; a name for the event in which Christ takes believers to be with Him in heaven (p. 146)

**Rebel** – To oppose a ruler or some other authority, often with hatred or violence (p. 53)

**Rebuke / Reproof** – To tell people that they have done wrong (p. 10)

**Reconciliation** – The act of reconciling; restoring a good relationship (p. 93)

**Rejoice** – To take joy from something good; in Scripture, to appreciate God's gifts (p. 34)

**Repent** – To regret sin and turn back toward God; to ask God to forgive you (p. 38)

**Reproof / Rebuke** – To tell people that they have done wrong (p. 10)

**Resurrection** – The event in which someone dead becomes alive again (p. 128)

**Revelation** – Something that is revealed or shown; God's communication to us (p. 15)

## S

**Sackcloth** – Rough fabric used for sacks or bags; in Scripture, often worn to show sadness (p. 75)

**Saint** – A sacred or holy person; in Scripture, a term for a believer or Christian (p. 146)

**Samaritan** – In Jesus' time, a person from Samaria who descended from both Jews and Gentiles (p. 113)

**Sanctify** – To make holy or sacred; to set apart for a special purpose (p. 25)

**Sanhedrin / The Council** – A group of Jewish leaders who made legal and religious decisions for the people (p. 123)

**Satan** – An evil being opposed to God and those who follow Him; means "adversary" (p. 79)

**Scourge / Flog** – To beat or lash with a whip (p. 123)

**Scripture** – Sacred writings; another name for the Bible (p. 5)

**The Sermon on the Mount** – The longest message from Jesus recorded in the Gospels (p. 118)

**Sin** – Turning away from God; to break God's Law (p. 38)

**Sovereignty** – Power and authority; in Scripture, God's sole rulership over everything (p. 137)

**Stricken** – Struck or beaten; suffering under violent abuse (p. 103)

**Submit** – To serve someone or follow leadership; to put your wants under another's (p. 29)

**Synagogue** – A gathering place for Jews to learn and worship (p. 108)

## T

**Tabernacle** – In Scripture, a tent compound where God showed His presence to Israel (p. 5)

**Temple** – A holy or sacred place for worship (p. 93)

**Temptation** – The act of tempting; any pressure to do wrong; can refer to the thing that tempts (p. 84)

**Testament** – A promise or record; the name for the two major divisions of books in the Bible (p. 5)

**Testimony** – A record or witness, often of something important (p. 67)

**Thresh** – To separate grain from the rest of the plant (p. 20)

**Tongues** – In the New Testament, a term for different languages (p. 132)

**Tradition** – A custom that is practiced over a long time; a long-held set of beliefs (p. 58)

**Trespass / Transgress** – To step over a line or boundary; to break a rule (p. 79)

**Tribulation** – Great suffering, hardship, or trouble (p. 141)

---

## V

**Vineyard** – A place for growing grapevines (p. 15)

**Vow** – A serious, unbreakable promise, sometimes to God Himself (p. 53)

---

## W

**Winepress** – In ancient times, a hard floor or pit where people squeezed grapes to make wine (p. 20)

**Wisdom** – The ability to use knowledge well; insight and understanding (p. 10)

**The World** – In Scripture, can mean the system of power built by those who oppose God (p. 79)

**Wormwood** – A very bitter herb (p. 151)

---

## Y

**Yeast / Leaven** – A single-cell fungus used in breadmaking to help the dough rise (p. 98)

---