

THE RIGHT COMPETITION

Our world is obsessed with competition. If you question the legitimacy of that statement, consider this estimate. Research suggests the worldwide market for competitive sports is expected to reach \$707.84 billion in 2026. By the end of this decade, it could be valued at more than a trillion dollars with a T. For reference, that is more than the GDP of most countries.

No doubt sports are entertaining. Likewise, there are legitimate lessons to learn for people from the smallest children to adults who participate in little league, school, collegiate and recreational sports. However, the Bible talks about a competition that is much more significant. No dollar amount could quantify its value.

Romans 12:10

Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor.

While people today, both inside and outside the church, are jockeying for position and power, Paul tells the Christians in Rome (who, by the way, were in conflict and trying to be in control of the church in Rome) that they needed to invest themselves in...loving one another. He goes on to say that if you want to compete with one another, compete at deploying the love of Christ by showing honor.

This wasn't a one-time message. Listen to the inspired word.

Philippians 2:3

3 Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves.

Galatians 5:13

For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.

1 Thessalonians 4:9-10

9 Now concerning brotherly love you have no need for anyone to write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love one another, 10 for that indeed is what you are doing to all the brothers throughout Macedonia. But we urge you, brothers, to do this more and more,

It's not optional.

John 13:34

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another.

Who do you need to love? Go love them!
Make sure you are in the right competition.
Shalom,
Ryan