

A low-angle, close-up shot of a person's legs and feet as they run on a dark asphalt track. The person is wearing dark-colored running shoes with white soles. The background is a soft, out-of-focus landscape under a warm, golden sunset sky. The overall mood is one of motion and perseverance.

RUN WELL:

GRACE AND LOVE

Galatians 5:7–15

Dr. Christopher Cone

drcone.com / agathonu.com

Galatians 5:7-15

The course before us

RUN WELL
GRACE AND LOVE

Grace sustains us. Love directs our service.

Running well means obeying the truth.

A different persuasion disrupts the race.

Freedom finds its expression in love.

Galatians 5:7-15

5:7—Running well

RUN WELL
GRACE AND LOVE

They were on the right track, but someone hindered them.

Paul reminds of their earlier progress.

The obstacle concerns obedience to the truth.

Running well means continuing in that truth.

Galatians 5:7

5:8 – The source of the persuasion

RUN WELL
GRACE AND LOVE

This convincing does not come from God.

The message conflicts with the One who calls them.

Persuasion needs to be tested by the truth.

God's calling gives the standard for the race.

Compare with 1:6

Galatians 5:8

5:8 – Called by grace

RUN WELL
GRACE AND LOVE

The same grace governs the beginning and the continuing of life.

HE CALLED YOU

Galatians 1:6

Initial (position) calling by grace

Aorist active participle

HE IS CALLING YOU

Galatians 5:8

Continuing calling (practice) in the same grace

Present active participle

Ongoing sanctification rests on the same grace.

Galatians 1:6 / Galatians 5:8

5:9 – A little leaven

RUN WELL
GRACE AND LOVE

A small influence affects the whole.

Paul uses leaven to explain the danger.

The troubling persuasion will not remain isolated.

Jesus also used leaven to describe hypocrisy.

Galatians 5:9 / Luke 12:1

5:10 – Confidence and accountability

RUN WELL
GRACE AND LOVE

Paul is confident in their position in the Lord, and...

THE BELIEVERS

Paul is confident they will hold to the truth.

THE TROUBLEMAKER

God will hold the one troubling them accountable.

Galatians 5:10

5:11 –The stumbling block of the cross

RUN WELL
GRACE AND LOVE

The cross confronts reliance on works.

Paul no longer preaches circumcision.

If he did, why would persecution continue?

Grace leaves no ground for earning righteousness.

Galatians 5:11 / Galatians 2:21

5:12 – A severe judgment

RUN WELL
GRACE AND LOVE

The agitators endanger the church.

Paul now refers to multiple agitators.

He wishes they would cut themselves off completely.

The severity of the judgment reflects the stakes.

Galatians 5:12

5:13 – Called to freedom

RUN WELL
GRACE AND LOVE

God's gracious calling brings freedom.

The believers have been called to freedom.

Freedom must not become an opening for the flesh.

Its purpose is loving service to one another.

Galatians 5:13 / Galatians 1:6

5:13 – Service through love

RUN WELL
GRACE AND LOVE

Love is the source from which service proceeds.

SERVICE THROUGH LOVE

Not love through service.

Freedom serves the good of others.

Galatians 5:13

5:14 – The law fulfilled through love

RUN WELL
GRACE AND LOVE

Love accomplishes what works cannot.

Love of neighbor sums up the law's ethic toward others.

The neighbor's good becomes the concern.

Love gives service its proper direction.

Galatians 5:14 / Leviticus 19:18

5:15 – Biting and devouring

RUN WELL
GRACE AND LOVE

The flesh (and reliance on works)
turns people against one another.

Destructive conduct damages the whole community.

Mutual attack can become mutual ruin.

Like leaven, its influence spreads.

Galatians 5:15 / Galatians 5:9

Galatians 5:7-15

Grace and love in the race

RUN WELL
GRACE AND LOVE

Grace frees us to serve through love.

CALLED BY GRACE

God supplies the beginning and the continuing resource.

RUNNING IN THE TRUTH

The gospel of grace governs the race.

SERVING THROUGH LOVE

Freedom seeks the good of one another.

Galatians 5:7-15

Galatians 5:7-15

Running well together

RUN WELL
GRACE AND LOVE

Our response begins with the truth of grace.

What is hindering our obedience to the truth?

Are we relying on grace as we continue the race?

How will love direct our service to one another?

What empowers such a walk?

Galatians 5:7-15

A low-angle, close-up shot of a person's legs and feet as they run on a dark asphalt track. The person is wearing dark-colored running shoes with white soles. The background is a soft, out-of-focus sunset or sunrise scene with warm, golden light. The overall mood is one of motion and perseverance.

RUN WELL:

GRACE AND LOVE

Galatians 5:7–15

Dr. Christopher Cone

drcone.com / agathonu.com