**“Strive for the Prize!” – C*rowns for Our Savior***

**(Revelation 4:10-11)**

**Whether it be for the Super-Bowl trophy or some other grand prize,**

**people give every ounce of effort to win!  The Bible instructs us to**

**strive for crowns in Heaven that we will one day cast at Jesus’ feet.**

**Today we will learn about these crowns and be challenged to pursue…**

**1. The Incorruptible Crown (1 Corinthians 9:24-27)**

 **Also called the RUNNER’S Crown**

**2. The Crown of Rejoicing (1 Thessalonians 2:19-20)**

 **Also called the SOUL-WINNER’S Crown**

**3. The Crown of Righteousness (2 Timothy 4:6-8)**

 **Also called the WATCHER’S Crown**

**4. The Crown of Life (James 1:12)**

 **Also called the LOVER’S Crown**

**5. The Crown of Glory (1 Peter 5:4)**

 **Also called the SHEPHERD’S Crown**

**“Strive for the Prize!” – (Revelation 4:10-11)**

**Small Group Discussion Guide**

**1. Read and discuss 1 Corinthians 9:24-27 about the Incorruptible**

 **Crown.  What are some spiritual disciplines that God wants us to**

 **do on a regular basis?  Why are these important?  Why are they**

 **easy to neglect?**

**2. Read and discuss 1 Thessalonians 2:19-20 about the Crown of**

 **Rejoicing. Imagine who will be with you in Heaven.  Share a bit**

 **about a person who influenced you toward Christ.  Who is**

 **someone that you had a part in helping to come to Christ, or**

 **someone for whom you are praying to get saved?**

**3. Read and discuss 2 Timothy 4:5-8 about the Crown of**

 **Righteousness.  What does it mean to “love His appearing”?**

 **What does a person look like who is eager to see Jesus return?**

**4. Read and discuss James 1:12 about the Crown of Life.  Share about**

 **someone you observed going through a difficult trial with grace**

 **and joy.   How were they able to do it?**

**5. Which of these crowns motivates you the most?  Why?**

**Digging Deeper:**

**1. Review the Scripture for 1 of the 4 crowns mentioned above each**

 **day for 4 consecutive days.  Write down an action step you will**

 **take to pursue each crown.**

**2. Read over the passage about the Crown of Glory in 1 Peter 5:2-4**

 **a couple times along with 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13 and Hebrews**

 **13:17.  With these thoughts in mind, take some time each day this**

 **week to pray for your pastor and your congregation.**