



- Up Words # 36

Running Boots



Well, it looks like Spring might finally have sprung and I'm sure we're all looking forward to warmer weather ahead.

One of the great things about warmer weather is that we'll soon see people out walking, biking or running down our neighborhood streets. On May 4th, as a part of the 500 Festival activities, Indianapolis will host the One America Mini-Marathon. As the largest mini-marathon in the nation some of the best runners from 48 states and 13 countries (and FRBC's own Pastor Andy) are registered for this big event. I'm sure the 35,000 who have committed to that race are hoping for great weather and a wonderful day.

What I'm looking forward to seeing are all of the new running boots these athletes are wearing. Of course you know they make different boots for various activities; tennis boots, softball boots and especially running boots ... you probably have some in your closet.

Yes sir, running boots are all the rage ... right? Well, not exactly. All of us know that no one runs in boots. Though our brave men and women in the armed forces are forced to run in boots, all of us would agree that boots are not normally considered running footwear. After all, most boots are awkward and ugly, not to mention heavy.

So, what are you wearing as you run through life? Weights or wings? Hebrews 12:1-2 instructs us, "Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God." (NASV). The cloud of witnesses is probably a reference to those in Hebrews 11 who are part of that great hall of faith. They ran well. We too can run well if we put off those sinful things that keep tripping us up.

Are you struggling with the race of life? Are you weighed down with sin and guilt? Through repentance of sin and confession of Christ you can be free. Why not look to Jesus and get rid of the running boots.

Looking Up,
Pastor Chuck Circle