

Following
JESUS

In Real Life.

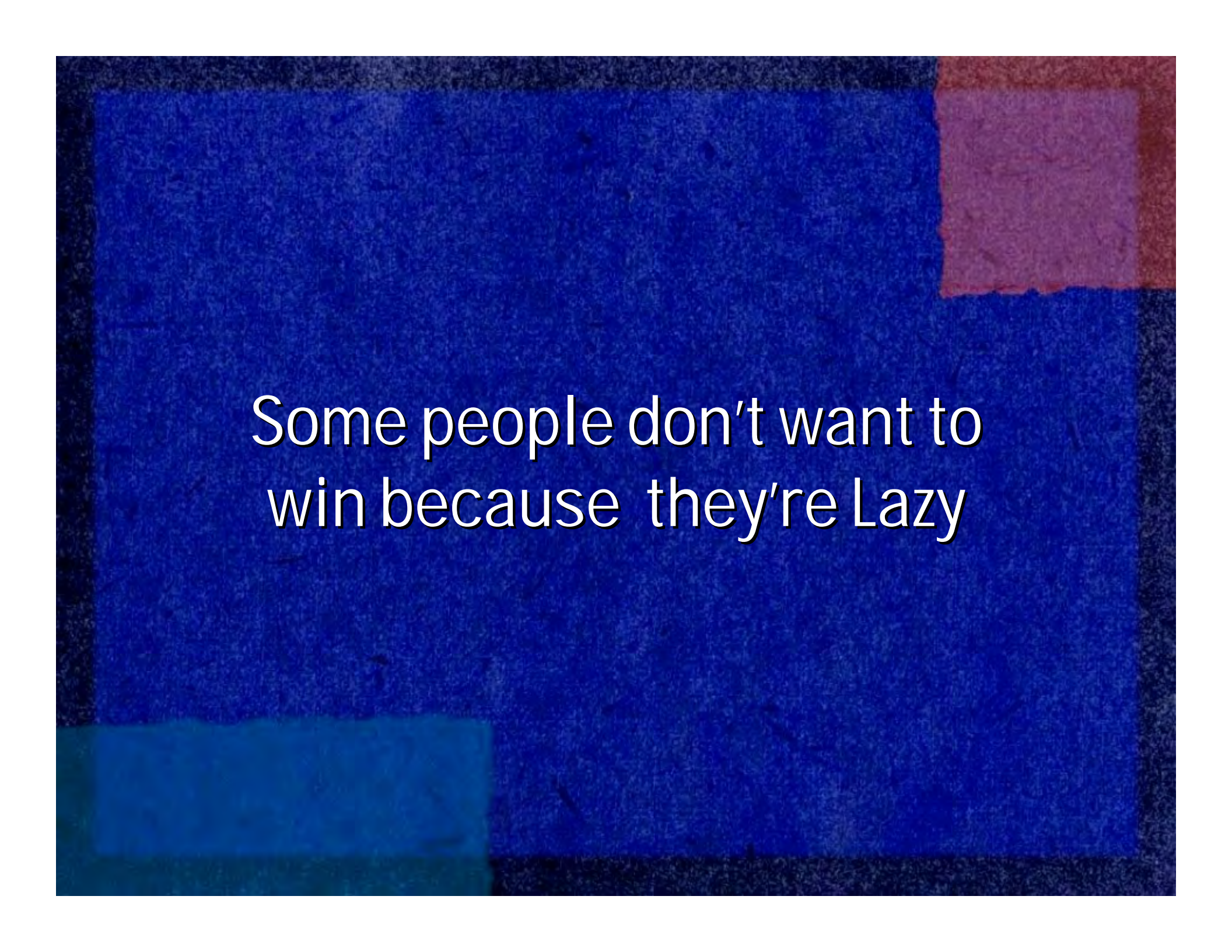
Don't you realize that in a race everyone runs, but only one person gets the prize? So run to win! 25 All athletes are disciplined in their training. They do it to win a prize that will fade away, but we do it for an eternal prize. 26 So I run with purpose in every step. I am not just shadowboxing. 27 I discipline my body like an athlete, training it to do what it should. Otherwise, I fear that after preaching to others I myself might be disqualified. 1 Corinthians 9:24-27



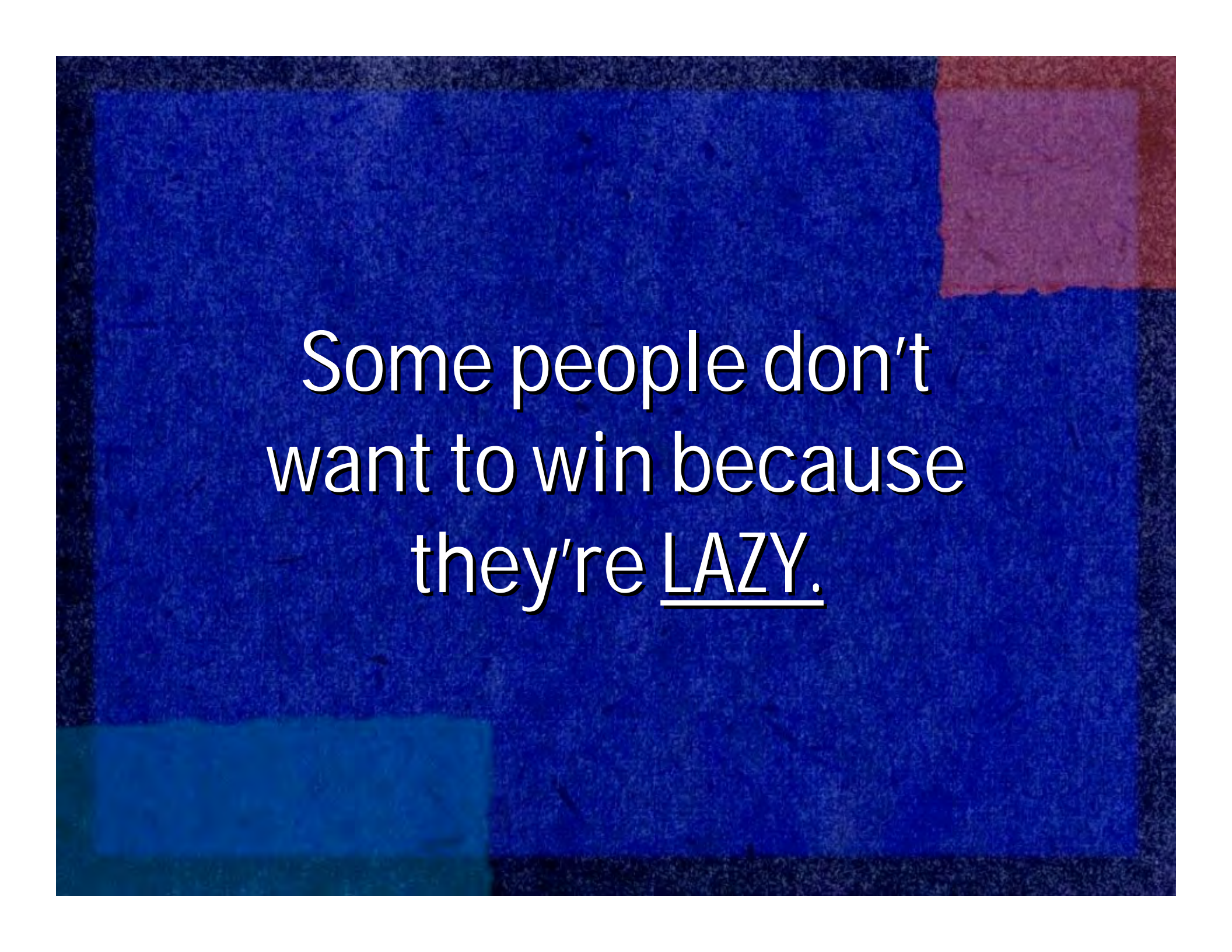
IT TAKES DESIRE

Don't you realize that in a race everyone runs, but only one person gets the prize? So run to win!


1 Corinthians 9:24

The background consists of several overlapping rectangular blocks of color. A large, textured blue block covers most of the left and center. A smaller, textured red block is in the top right corner. A darker blue block is in the bottom left corner. The overall appearance is that of a collage or a textured digital background.


Some people don't want to
win because they're Lazy

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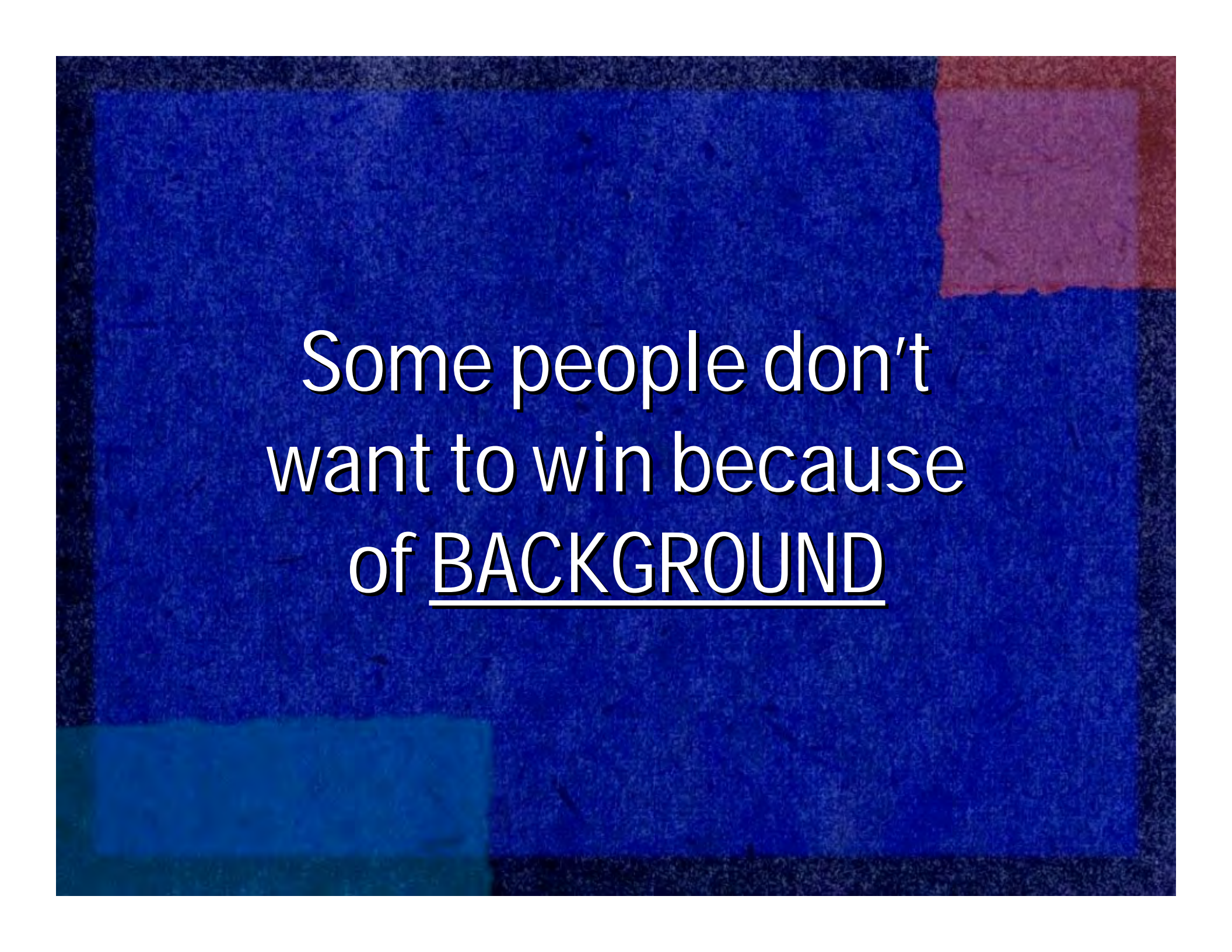
Some people don't
want to win because
they're LAZY.

The background consists of several overlapping rectangular blocks of color with a fibrous, paper-like texture. A large, dark blue block occupies the majority of the left and center. A smaller, reddish-purple block is in the top right corner. A lighter blue block is in the bottom left corner. The overall effect is abstract and layered.

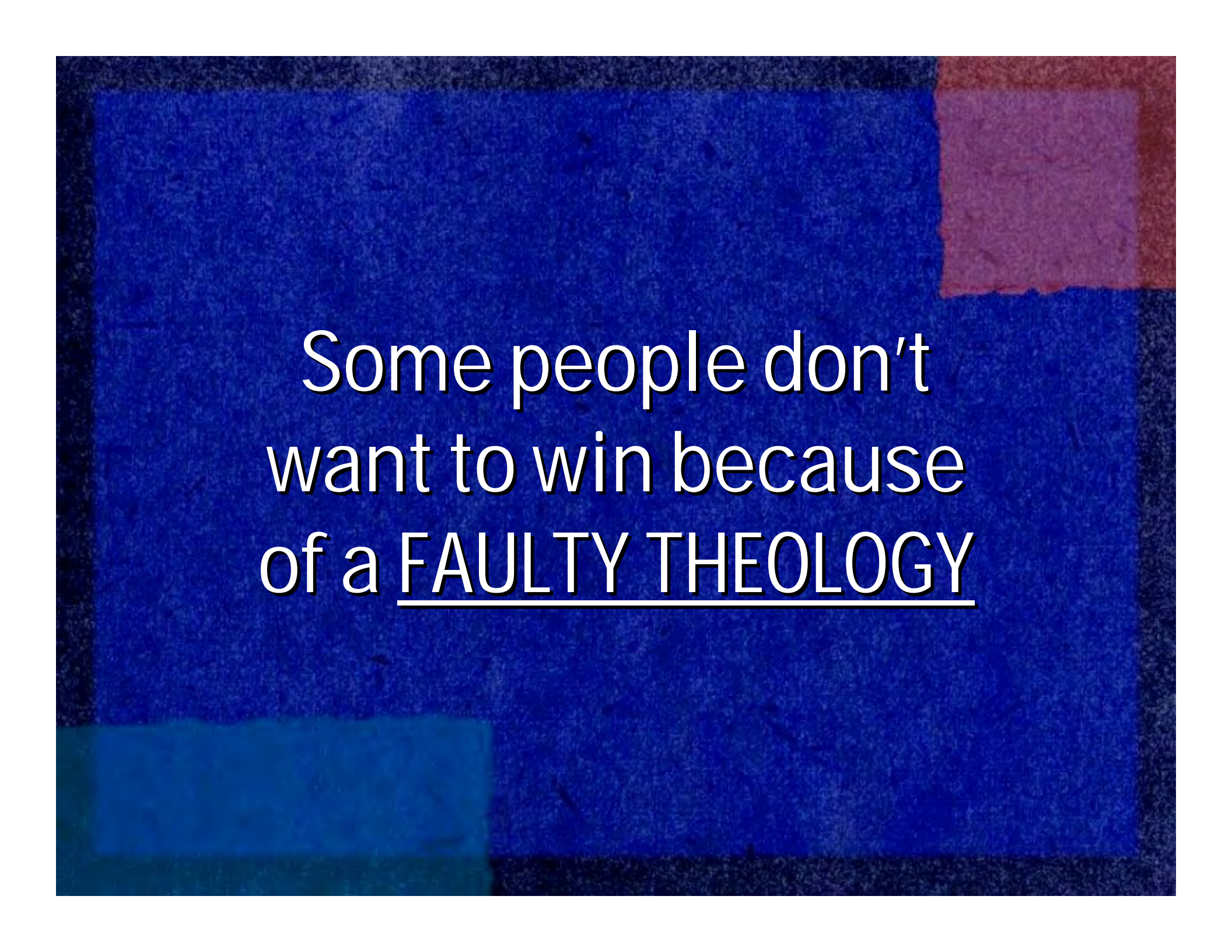
Some people don't
want to win because
of their APPETITES

The background consists of several overlapping rectangular blocks of color. A large, textured blue block covers most of the left and center. A smaller, textured red block is in the top right corner. A darker blue block is at the bottom left. The overall effect is abstract and textured.

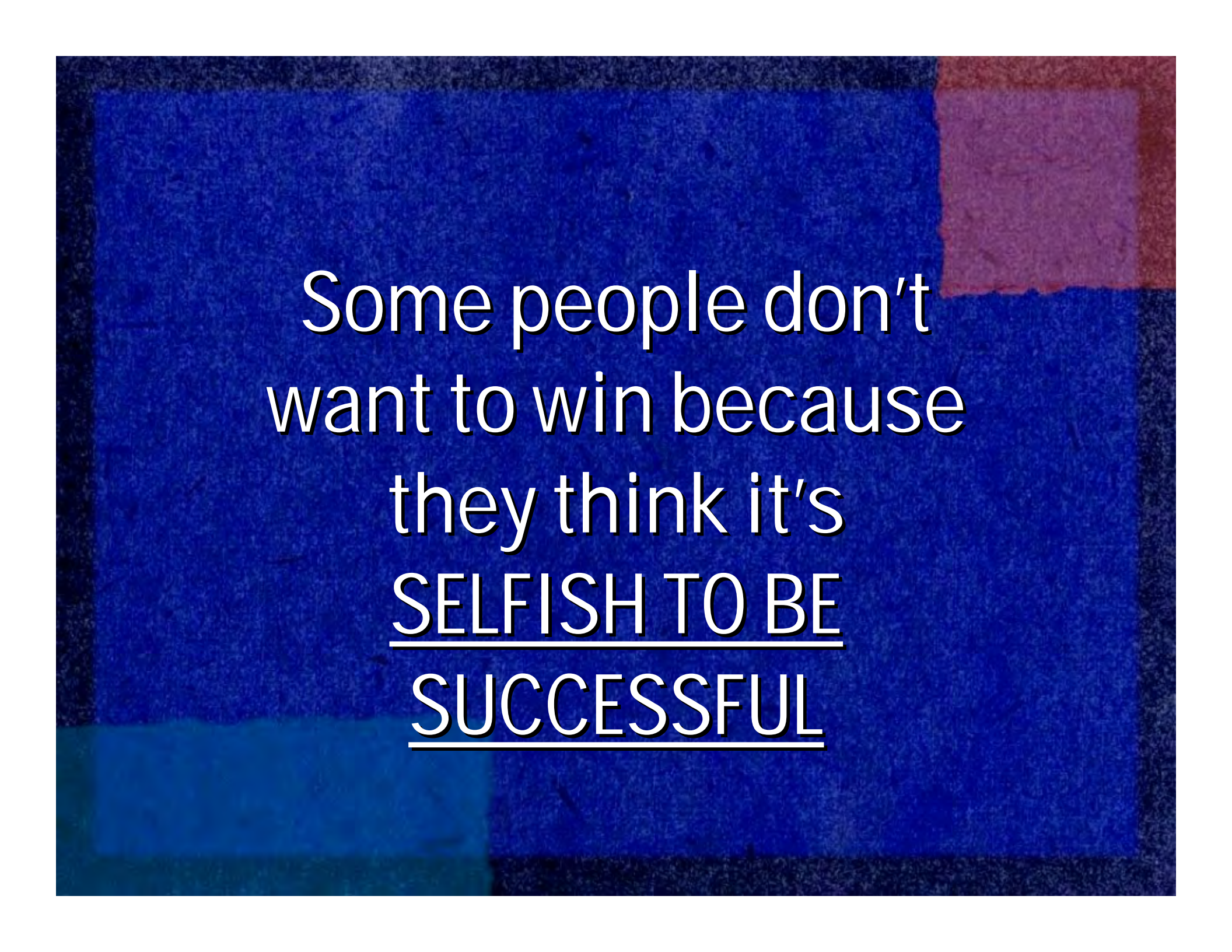
Some people don't
want to win because
of GUILT

The background consists of several overlapping rectangular blocks of color with a fibrous, paper-like texture. A large, dark blue block occupies the majority of the left and center. A smaller, reddish-brown block is positioned in the upper right corner. A lighter blue block is visible in the bottom left corner. The overall composition is abstract and layered.

Some people don't
want to win because
of BACKGROUND


The background consists of several overlapping rectangular blocks of color with a fibrous, paper-like texture. A large, dark blue block occupies the majority of the left and center. A smaller, reddish-brown block is positioned in the upper right corner. A lighter blue block is visible in the bottom left corner. The overall effect is a layered, abstract composition.

Some people don't
want to win because
of a FAULTY THEOLOGY



Some people don't
want to win because
they think it's
SELFISH TO BE
SUCCESSFUL





"Praise the greatness of the
Lord, who loves to see his
servants do well."

Psalm 35:27

The background is an abstract, textured composition of warm colors including shades of brown, orange, yellow, and red, with darker, cooler tones of purple and blue at the bottom. Faint, illegible text is visible throughout the background, appearing as if it were a page of text that has been blurred or faded.

Ephesians 3:20 says,

*“With God’s power working in us
God can do much, much more than
anything we can ask or imagine.”*



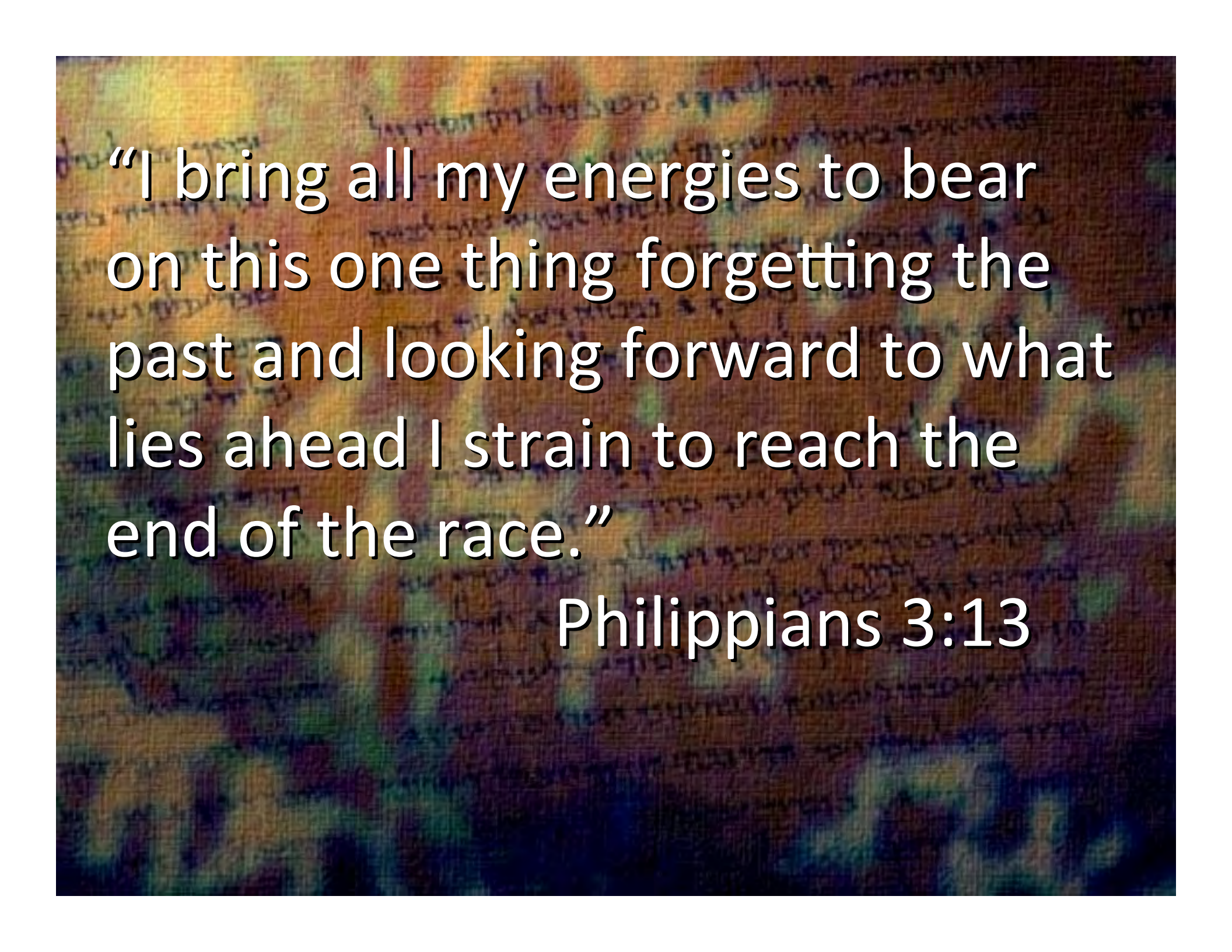
2. IT TAKES DIRECTION.

Therefore I do not run like
someone running aimlessly; I do
not fight like a boxer beating the
air. 1 Corinthians 9:26



Proverbs 17:24

“An intelligent man aims at
wise actions but a fool starts
off in many directions.”

The background of the image is an abstract composition of warm, earthy tones including shades of brown, orange, yellow, and green. A subtle, dark grid pattern is overlaid on this background, creating a textured effect. The text is centered and rendered in a white, sans-serif font with a thin black outline for readability.

“I bring all my energies to bear on this one thing forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead I strain to reach the end of the race.”

Philippians 3:13



3. It Takes DISCIPLINE

“All those who compete in the games use self-control so they can win.”

1 Corinthians 9:25



Proverbs 13:4

“Lazy people want much but
get little while the disciplined
are prospering.”

I discipline my body like an athlete,
training it to do what it should.
Otherwise, I fear that after preaching
to others I myself might be
disqualified. 1 Corinthians 9:27



IT TAKES DETERMINATION

I discipline my body like an athlete, training it to do what it should. Otherwise, I fear that after preaching to others I myself might be disqualified. 1 Corinthians 9:27



Philippians 3:14

“I keep trying to reach the goal and win the prize for which God has called me through Christ to the life above.”

Hebrews 12:1,2

“Let us run the race that is before us and never give up. We should remove from our lives anything that would get in the way and the sin that holds us back.

Let us look only to Jesus.
Think about His example. He
held on while wicked people
were doing evil things to Him.
So don't get tired and stop
trying.” Hebrews 12:3

The Key:

Is what you have
your eyes on.



1 Corinthians 9:25

“For everyone who competes in the games does it to get a crown that won’t last. But we do it to get a crown that will last forever.”

Do you see what this means—all these pioneers who blazed the way, all these veterans cheering us on? It means we'd better get on with it. Strip down, start running—and never quit! No extra spiritual fat, no parasitic sins. Keep your eyes on Jesus, who both began and finished this race we're in. Study how he did it. Because he never lost sight of where he was headed—that exhilarating finish in and with God—he could put up with anything along the way: Cross, shame, whatever. And now he's there, in the place of honor, right alongside God. When you find yourselves flagging in your faith, go over that story again, item by item, that long litany of hostility he plowed through. That will shoot adrenaline into your souls!

Hebrews 12:1-3 The Message

