

Keeping score

1. Keeping score but always 10:23-25

Happily married people know that keeping score is what unhappily married people do.

The disciples were amazed at His words. But Jesus said again, 'Children, how hard it is to enter the Kingdom of God! Mark 10:24

You have collected and kept all my tears. You have kept a record of every tear I have cried. Psalm 56:8

2. Keeping score and winning 10:23-25

Does God keep score?

O Lord, if You kept a record of sins; O Lord, who could stand? But with You there is forgiveness! Psalm 130:3-4

How God keeps score

Blessed is the one whose sin the Lord never counts against them. Rom.4:8
God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. 2 Corinthians 5:19

3. Keeping score and always 10:28-31

How God keeps score so my life counts

God's judgment is right, and as a result you will be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you are suffering. 2 Thessalonians 1:5

As you know, we count as blessed those who have persevered. You have heard of Job's perseverance and have seen what the Lord finally brought about. The Lord is full of compassion and mercy. James 5:11

So, it's not how much I get that counts, but what I successfully go through!

How I keep count so my life counts

Count yourselves dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus. Rom. 6:11

Keeping God's commands is what counts. 1 Corinthians 7:19

What counts is the new creation. Galatians 6:15

The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love. Gal. 5:6

My Prayer Points for this week

For personal reflection, or group discussion

1. No doubt, you have participated in many competitions. What are your memories of winning or losing?
2. Read Mark 10:23. Why would it be hard for a rich person to enter God's Kingdom? Why might it be hard for a poor person to enter the Kingdom? Why might it be hard for a middle class person to enter God's Kingdom?
3. Read Psalm 56:8. List some benefits of God recording our tears. How does everyone benefit when someone's grief is acknowledged?
4. Read Romans 4:8 and 2 Corinthians 5:19. What does God not do? Why do you think He chooses not to do that? In our interpersonal relationships, why is it a good idea to follow this Godly example?
5. In each of the following Bible verses identify: 1. what counts, 2. why it is important, 3. At least three practical ways of practicing it. The verses are: 1 Corinthians 7:19, Galatians 6:15, and Galatians 5:6.