



HOME RUN Devotional #28 – MADE NEW

By Pastor Myron D. Atkinson

Verse for Today: 2 Corinthians 5:17 (NLT) “...Anyone who belongs to Christ has become a **NEW** person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!”

Some people like to restore “old” things and make them “new” again. I have an antique hall tree that belonged to my grandmother. It’s over 100 years old and not long ago I stripped it down, sanded it, made some repairs and then stained it. It had almost a total makeover with the exception of leaving the old mirror in it and the underneath side of the seat unfinished. When I was done, it looked new and I was proud of my work.

During the past 28 days, we have been discussing having a Home Run Life by God’s standards. It’s allowing God to give us a total “make over!” Too many times we run the bases backwards in life and then we get to the end and have a lot of questions like “What if I...?” and uncertainty about the future. When we run the bases according to God’s standards instead of ending life with a lot of questions and uncertainty, we can have a peace about eternity. It all starts with:

Home Plate: Winning with God – We have to realize that EVERYTHING we have comes from God and He is the one that makes everything new. He is the one that is the source of life, our hope, our peace, our security. The treasures of this world rust, fade, and break! When we place our dependence upon God, we are investing in eternity!

First Base: Winning within – This is personal integrity, being able to look in the mirror without regrets knowing that you did the right thing even when no one else was looking.

Second Base: Winning with others – This is where you come to realize that people and relationships are important. Instead of using people and loving things, you love people and use things. People matter to God and so they should matter to us!

Third Base: Winning Results – This is where you realize that everything you do, no matter how trivial or menial, matters and it’s all for God’s glory! You don’t do sloppy work, you do it with excellence and you work hard!

Home Plate: Scoring – When we run the bases according to God’s standards we can have a peace about eternity and the assurance that we will hear him say “Well done!” That should motivate us to not only live a Home Run Life according to God’s standards, but to want to see others score as well.

Are you ready to have your life refurbished and to be “made new!” It will be exciting and the thrill of the victory will be worth it all when we cross the finish line!

Questions for today: In what ways have you been running the bases backwards? What steps will you take today to correct this? If you are striving to run the bases according to God’s design, which base are you struggling with? What steps can you take today to correct and improve?

Other Verses to look up: Romans 2:1-2, Revelation 21:4-5, Isaiah 43:18-19, Romans 6:4

Prayer today:

Dear God, Thank you for creating me, loving me, and showing me how I can have a Home Run Life. Help me to live for you and not for myself! Help me to love You and others more. Please forgive me for my sins and give me the grace to forgive others when I have been wronged. Thank You for Your forgiveness, grace, and hope! May I be the person You want me to be, and may our church be the church You want us to be. Let change begin in my heart and flow over to my home, my church, and my community!