

The Weekly Message from Darren Brandon  
May 20, 2026

### **“Give Grace Time”**



We have all seen those viral videos of athletes celebrating way too soon. A confident runner lifts his arms before the finish line, while a rival keeps sprinting and slips right past him. A cyclist sits up to pump her fist, losing her momentum and the race in one heartbreaking instant. They reached a final conclusion before the race was actually finished.

It is easy to smile at those moments, but they reveal something about how we often make the exact same mistake, though usually in the opposite direction. Instead of declaring premature victory, we declare premature defeat. We look at our current struggles and decide the race is already lost. But just because something in your life is broken doesn't mean it is finished. Just because you feel like you are hopelessly behind doesn't mean that it is over.

When we quickly write off a situation as impossible, we are actively limiting God. We forget that the Author of our faith is still writing the story. Don't reach a conclusion before grace has had time to work its quiet, mysterious power. The truth is, none of us knows enough to reach a final conclusion about how things will ultimately be.

God's timing operates on a different scale and that's really good news for us. So, do not close the book too soon. Do not declare the ending before God has finished writing. Do what you can and trust the rest to God. Stay open to possibility. Stay open to hope. Stay open to the God who is working in seen and unseen ways.

Blessings,

*Darren*