

## **Passing the Torch**

### **Ready:**

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations..."  
-Matthew 28:19a

### **Set**

The NBA ... it's fantastic. Well, maybe not. But at playoff time it does get pretty exciting. The Indiana Pacers are once again making a push for the coveted title. The Pacers are not being led by the deadly sharp shooting of Reggie Miller this season, but the powerful play of two younger players — Ron Artest and Jermaine O'Neal. Reggie's days are ending, and he is passing the torch to his teammates. He knows he cannot carry the load like in years past. It is time for the younger, more youthful players on his team to step up, take on the responsibility, and lead their team to a championship. Reggie no doubt will do his job, but his best days are behind him now.

At the end of Christ's time on earth, He called on his disciples to carry the message to the believers because it was time for Him to go to the Father. Christ left His followers with the great commission: to go and teach others about Him, making more disciples wherever they went. Jesus Christ passed the torch to His disciples who, in turn, passed it on to other believers. Quality leaders make sure they train younger leaders to carry the traditions and legacy of their work and efforts. Jesus trained His disciples to then train others, and we are called to do the same.

Before he leaves the game, Reggie Miller will make sure he has passed what he has learned on to others who are following in his footsteps. Again, we are called to do the same. Someone passed the torch to you, and now you are called to carry the torch until it is your time to pass it on. Jesus has allowed us to pass the torch. Do not let the light of yours burn out with you. Pass the Good News of Jesus Christ on to others daily, but continue to carry your torch as well until it is your time to go to your eternal home. By passing the torch, the light of Christ can and will shine brightly over all the earth. He is calling you to do your part. Have you? Will you? I know you can!

### **Go**

1. Who passed the torch to you as an athlete? As a believer?
2. Is your torch burning bright or starting to burn out?
3. Are you passing the torch of Christ to others you meet?

### **Workout**

Matthew 28:16-20  
Mark 13:9-11  
1 Corinthians 9:16

**Bible Reference:**

1 Corinthians 9



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