

VIDEO 2

Transcript

Who Is Runner Church For?



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Hey there again, this is Pastor Jimmy from *Runner Church*. Thanks for watching video two in this series of short videos where I'm answering some frequently asked questions about *Runner Church*. For the next few minutes I'll cover this all-important question...

"Who is Runner Church for?"

The really short answer is: Every. Single. Runner. 😊 Here's how we say it...

Runner Church welcomes runners of all backgrounds and beliefs.

That includes both physical and spiritual experiences ... so, regardless of how many steps you've taken in your running journey or your spiritual journey (or if you've yet to take your first step), we'd love to have you join us.

- If you run 1-mile or 100-miles, if you're the tortoise or the hare, if you've been logging miles for days or decades, if you're 5 or 95, if you've spent most of your time on the roads or most of your time on the trails ... we welcome you.
- If you've never been to church or you grew up in church, if you love God or don't even know if you believe in God, if you're a person of faith or a person of skepticism, if you're wanting to love others through running or wanting to be loved by others through running ... we welcome you.

Runner Church welcomes runners of all backgrounds and beliefs ... every distance and pace, every history and record, every opinion and position. We want the opportunity to love you and give you Good News that makes a real difference in your everyday life. You will not be treated like an "outsider" if you come join us.

We are not a club or a clique of those who have it all together. We are a group of imperfect people that live messy lives, who strive to live in a manner that pleases God while resting in His grace.

We believe...

It's okay not to be okay; it's not okay to stay that way.

We all have a list of areas, situations, moments, relationships, things, and places where we are not okay, but we want to be. At *Runner Church* we want to give every runner some Good News ...

that God has made it possible to experience new life and that He is willing to personally commit Himself to our long-term transformation to grow us in every area where we are not okay.

Don't think for a second you have to get yourself cleaned up in some way before you come to a Runner Church gathering.

In our next video, I'll answer "*What Does Runner Church Do?*" which will highlight several ways we seek to serve and encourage runners. But for now, let me quickly tell you about our Sunday morning gatherings, which are our most attended events, and a great first experience for checking us out.

We call our Sunday morning gatherings, "*Faith And Fun Group Runs*". We usually have between 20 and 30 runners in attendance. Families of runners are welcome. So are walkers. And, unless otherwise noted, pets are welcome ... so feel free to bring Fido or Fifi with you.

At most of our locations, there is usually a picnic table and we try to bring a few chairs with us, but it's always a good idea to bring your own chair to guarantee you get to sit. Or, you can stand for the message if you want ... we have a number of people who do that each time.

I'll read a Scripture passage, so you don't have to bring a Bible, but you can of course – especially if you have it on your device. But it's not required. Feel free to wear your normal running attire and bring anything with you that you normally bring on a run, such as a hydration bottle, sunscreen and so forth.

We start promptly at the published time, which is usually 8:00 AM. I'll share a 15-minute talk which starts with a personal story, usually running related, that leads into a Bible reading and a message that is relevant to things we all deal with in everyday life.

I have one goal for my Sunday morning message...

To give runners Good News (the gospel).

Every day our needs are different, so we want to point runners to the "*immeasurable riches*" (Ephesians 3:8) that are available in Jesus that are a perfect fit for all the places we are not okay.

After the short talk, we participate in a group run that is suited for all distances and paces. We wait at intersections so no one gets left behind. We pair you up with someone if you've never been before. We make sure you don't get lost. So, whether you plan to run just a mile or two, or you want to get into double-digits, there is something for you.

We always bring snacks of brownies and peanut butter pretzel bites, as well as cold bottled water. Feel free to hang out with other runners after running. We are usually out there for two hours before we pack up and leave. Of course, you can come and go whenever you want.

If you want to attend one of our Sunday morning gatherings, visit RunnerChurch.com/events/ for a listing of and directions to our upcoming *Faith And Fun Group Runs*. You can also check out some of my archived messages at RunnerChurch.com to get a preview of the kind of messages I share, and the most recent Sunday morning talk will always be available at RunnerChurch.com/current-message/

Of course, if you're not local to the Omaha, NE area, that's okay too. You can take advantage of our RunnerChurch.com website to listen to the messages, download training, access Bible studies and use our growing suite of resources to help you use running to "love God and love people".

Back to the original question: Who is Runner Church for? We welcome runners of all backgrounds and beliefs who want to hear Good News for their lives. In other words...

If you're a runner, Runner Church is for you.

Short Version: *We welcome runners of all backgrounds and beliefs.*