Family Research Council®

Gary L. Bauer, President

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He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he giveth strength. Even the youths shall faint, and be weary; and the young men shall utterly fall. But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.
—Isaiah 40:29-31

Dear Friend:

While watching the Olympic games last month, I couldn't help but recall these poignant words from the prophet Isaiah. These verses play a pivotal role in the classic film *Chariots of Fire*, the true story of Scottsman, Eric Liddell, an Olympic runner. Liddell recites this passage from Scripture at a church service held on a day he was supposed to run a race in the Paris Games. *Chariots of Fire* tells how Liddell, a dedicated Christian, refused to run on the Sabbath, standing by his personal conviction in the face of intense pressure from the future King of England and others.

Even though my athletic ability won't get me into the Olympics, I must tell you that these hectic summer months have all of us at Family Research Council (FRC) running hard. Time and again, we are led back to God's promise that He will renew our strength, that he will enable us to effectively run the race and that His strength will never fail. FRC's staff has truly been pressed to the limit in recent days, and just like Olympic athletes, we have experienced the thrill of victory and the agony of defeat. Let me share with you, some of the many hills and hurdles FRC has encountered.

This month, the major events requiring our attention are the conventions of national political parties. The Republicans met first in San Diego, followed by the National Taxpayer's Party, Ross Perot's Reform Party, and finally the Democrats. The Libertarian Party has already nominated its presidential candidate. As a non-partisan organization, FRC continues to focus its energies on providing each of these parties with a detailed agenda for families. As I reported to you last month, FRC has advocated the pro-family agenda in a wide variety of public forums and we will continue to do so regardless of the response we receive from party leaders and the media elite.

As you read this, chances are I'll be returning to Washington after having taken the pro-family message to the GOP Convention in San Diego. We have urged each of the nation's political parties to make America's families a priority. We want Democrats, Republicans, and the smaller "third parties" alike, to see "family" ***not*** in terms of election cycles, but in terms of daily responsibilities and everyday needs. We have urged them all to adopt platforms that strengthen marriage, recognize the sanctity of human life, cut taxes for families, and to pay increased attention to the cultural decay undermining our society.