

February 5, 2023

FINISHING WELL

"NEVER QUIT...FINISH YOUR RACE"

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ACTS 20:24 (NIV) "I consider my life worth nothing to me, IF ONLY I may FINISH THE RACE and *complete the task* the Lord Jesus has given me..."

2 TIMOTHY 4:7 (ESV) "I have fought the good fight, I HAVE FINISHED THE RACE..."

HEBREWS 12:1-3 (NIV) "Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses LET US THROW OFF EVERYTHING THAT HINDERS and the sin that so easily entangles. LET US RUN WITH PERSEVERANCE THE RACE MARKED OUT FOR US. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus the author and perfecter of our faith WHO for the joy set before Him ENDURED THE CROSS, scorning its shame and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider Him who ENDURED such opposition from sinful men, SO THAT YOU DO NOT GROW WEARY AND QUIT THE RACE."

I. LIFE IS A RACE.

TRUTH: The Apostle Paul didn't want to miss God's best for his life (Acts 20:24).

INSIGHT: Finishing God's life race isn't easy, but it's doable (2 Timothy 4:7).

INSIGHT: The race God has marked out for each of us is impossible to complete in our own power. Each of us will be, has been or right now are being tempted to quit!

INSIGHT: The most difficult part of following Christ isn't starting the race but finishing!

II. GOD'S RACE FINISHER CLUB

INSIGHT: Today's message is about following through with the commitment we all made to Jesus Christ, to love Him, follow Him, and serve Him.

INSIGHT: The reality is that some, in these three services today, won't be here this time next year because the race got too long, too hard.

*The Faith Hall of Fame members:

1. Noah
2. Joseph
3. Moses

III. RELY ON CHRIST (Col. 1:29 LB; 1 Peter 4:11; Phil. 1:6).

TRUTH: It's not how you start the race that matters, but how you finish!

TRUTH: We never fail our race unless we quit our race.

TRUTH: The strength to finish our race isn't from us, but from Christ Jesus (Isaiah 40:29).