



CELL GUIDE

TOPIC Finishing Well
THEME Evangelism

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MESSAGE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

Ps Daniel Foo outlined what it means to finish well and the key reasons why we must finish well. Finishing well refers to our discipleship journey, which requires time, energy, discipline, and intentionality. The Word of God exhorts us to finish the race marked out for us, keep the faith and make our calling and election sure. There is a day of accountability for every believer at the Judgment seat of Christ. Our living is depicted as gold, silver, precious stones or wood, hay, straw, depending on our choices. It will be tested by fire to determine its eternal value, based on the principles of sowing and reaping.

PRACTICAL HANDLES TO FINISH WELL (6 Ps)

1. Person - Our being

There are 3 aspects: our character, baggage and whole being.

- Our character: God wants us to have integrity, which is wholeness, going beyond just honesty. Hebrews 12:1 says, "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, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us". There is a distinction between sin and sins. Sin refers to the fallen sinful nature (our carnal self-life) that produces the fruit of sins (e.g., lying, unforgiveness etc). Majority of issues arise from our carnality. Therefore, living a life of Christlikeness is so important, by denying our self-life, taking up our own cross and following Jesus.
- Throw off our baggage, which includes: unhealed hurts, unmet needs, unresolved issues, certain relationships, certain activities, worries and wrongs. These prevent us from running the race with endurance. Let us shed all distractions to pursue our discipleship journey with perseverance and focus.
- Take care of our **whole** being. 1 Thessalonians 5:23 says, "May God Himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ." Caring for our body consists of rest, exercise and diet. Pray for protection from injuries, infections, inflammations and infirmities. Proverbs 3:8 and 4:22 highlight that embracing God's wisdom brings physical health, vitality, and overall well-being. Our soul comprises of our mind, emotion and will. Our mind must be renewed to build mental strength. Pray daily for Spirit-led emotion and cultivation of the Fruit of the Spirit, which leads to filling of the emotional tank. Our will must be yielded to God to be aligned with His will so that we grow in wisdom. Our spirit includes our relationship with God, our conscience and discernment. Regular Word intake,

ongoing prayer-connect with God and building our altar of worship are essential for a close relationship with God. When our conscience is not clear, bring it under the blood of Jesus Christ (1 John 1:9). Discernment is a spiritual muscle that, when exercised, enables us to sense perfectly and perceive accurately.

2. Purpose – Our Living

Ephesians 2:10 says, "For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." We are saved to do good works through these: in our roles and responsibilities; being salt and light where we live and work; being ambassadors of Christ, making disciples and turning lives Godward as well as being effective Kings and priests. As the opportunity arises, let us make the effort to instruct effectively, impact greatly, influence wisely and inspire creatively.

3. People – Pay attention to relationships

Some people are more important than other people (i.e., biological family, believers and those whom we can help as a good Samaritan). Get away from people who divide our lives or are toxic but be with people who value-add to our lives. Keep company with Godly and wise people. We are not the Holy Spirit and cannot solve everyone's problem.

4. Possessions – Good stewardship of money, time and resources

In 2 Corinthians 9:10, God provides both the "seed" (resources for giving) and the "bread" (provision for needs). As 1 Timothy 6:6 says, we should cultivate godliness with contentment, which is great gain. Stay connected to God to guard against worldly influences, seek His wisdom, and be faithful stewards of our possessions. Invest in Kingdom causes and Gospel-centered ministries, remembering that God is the ultimate source of all we have, and seek to be spiritually rich over material wealth.

5. Priorities

This has to do with our commitment to the things that matter most to us, e.g., the importance of Godly values and to channel time and effort into these. In Jeremiah 2:2, God values our devotion, remembering the sincere love and faithfulness we have for Him. In 2 Corinthians 11:3, the simplicity of our devotion to Christ is emphasized as being pure and undivided, sincere and wholehearted commitment to Him.

6. Perseverance

We need perseverance to overcome weaknesses, infirmities, wrongs, warfare, waste and excesses. In doing this, know the season that is related to our position, posture, passion, pace, power and people. Be passionate for Christ and careful not to stumble by growing in faith, adding virtue, knowledge, self-control, perseverance, godliness, brotherly kindness, and love (2 Pet 1:5-7).

CONCLUSION

In 2 Timothy 4:7, it says, "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." This emphasises the importance of finishing well and staying true to our calling.

QUESTIONS

1. Why is it important to finish well in our discipleship journey?

2. Among the 6 Ps that were outlined (i.e., person, purpose, people, possessions, priorities, perseverance), which areas do you need to refocus to ensure that you finish strong in your walk with God?

3. What are the practical steps you can take to achieve your spiritual goals, positioning yourself for continued growth in the New Year?