



I Gotta Finish!

*I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race,
and I have remained faithful. – 2 Timothy 4:7*

March 23, 2008

Sermon Notes

I Gotta Finish!

Hebrews 12:1-2 (NLT)

1 Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up. And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us. 2 We do this by keeping our eyes on Jesus, the champion who initiates and perfects our faith. Because of the joy awaiting him, he endured the cross, disregarding its shame. Now he is seated in the place of honor beside God's throne.

Finish

1 a : to come to an end : TERMINATE

2 a : to come to the end of a course, task, or undertaking b : to end relations -

1 a : to bring to an end : b : to use or dispose of entirely 2 a : to bring to completion or issue

Text: 1 the last part of a process or action

2 the stopping of a process or activity <an all-out fight right to the *finish*>

Why don't we finish?

- Procrastination
- Perfect
- Patience
- Pride

What has it cost us by not finishing?

- Boys are not finishing growing up becoming men
- Girls are not finishing growing up becoming women
- Relationships
- Education
- Jobs
- Money
- Salvation
- Souls

Why we must finish

- It completes a stage in your life to prepare you for the next level.
- It is the will of God.

Genesis 2:1-3

1 So the creation of the heavens and the earth and everything in them was completed. 2 ***On the seventh day, having finished his task, God rested from all his work.*** 3 And God blessed the seventh day and declared it holy, because it was the day when he rested from his work of creation.

2 Timothy 4:5

Work at bringing others to Christ. **Complete the ministry God has given you.**

What happens when we finish?

- Sense of accomplishment
- Preparation for promotion
- Builds confidence
- You bring glory to God!

John 17:1-4

1 When Jesus had finished saying all these things, he looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the time has come. Glorify your Son so he can give glory back to you. 2 For you have given him authority over everyone in all the earth. He gives eternal life to each one you have given him. 3 And this is the way to have eternal life – to know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, the one you sent to earth. 4 **I brought glory to you here on earth by doing everything you told me to do.** 5 And now, Father, bring me into the glory we shared before the world began.