

Finishing Well 2 Timothy 4:5-22

1. How do we persevere, remaining faithful until the end? (v. 5)

- “Be sober-minded” (v. 5a): *Be morally alert and keep a clear head.*
- “Endure suffering” (v. 5b): *Avoid being bitter in hardship, or quitting because of hardship.*
- “Do the work of an evangelist” (v. 5c): *Keep proclaiming the gospel.*
- “Fulfill your ministry” (v. 5d): *Don’t get distracted in completing the work Christ has given you in your time on this earth.*

2. Finish well by following the example of men like Paul as they follow Christ (v. 6-9).

- Pour out your life as a sacrifice for Christ’s sake (v. 6).
- Fight the good fight, finish the race, keep the faith (v. 7)
- Remember the *crown* that awaits – endure by keeping that end in view (v. 8-9)

3. Don’t take godly friendships for granted; remember that we are in this together and that we need each other in this mission (v. 9-22).

- As Paul writes this, he knows his death is imminent. Notice in these final words what is on Paul’s mind at his death: Jesus *and* people.

Study Guide



Reflect + Discuss + Apply

1. How are you most likely to lose your clear head – by becoming too excited or too discouraged?
2. How can a “cool head” and an intense passion for sharing the gospel work well together?
3. What’s the difference between the office of “evangelist” (Eph. 4:11) and “the work of an evangelist” (2 Tim. 4:5)?
4. How does knowledge of the sacrificial system of the Old Testament help us grasp the meaning of Paul’s words in verse 6?
5. Are you convinced that “departure” is better than life? What feelings do you have when you contemplate death?
6. How does knowing about Paul’s experience of suffering affect the way you understand his last words?
7. Are we called to win the race or to run the race? What’s the difference? How does that affect our intention to give 100%?
8. What role do godly relationships play in your spiritual journey? Do you grow more on your own or with friends?
9. What would you want said about you at your funeral? If you were to die today, would others say those things? Are they true?
10. Who is your Paul (that is, who is intentionally building into you)? Who is your Timothy (that is, who are you intentionally building into, teaching them how to in turn build into others)?
Can you answer those two questions?



What next?

1. Choose someone (or 2-4 people) and start meeting regularly to study the Word and pray, if you aren’t doing this already.
2. Together set some clear aims of what you’d like to see happen as you meet.
3. Pay the cost. Discipling requires time, study, prayer, love. Commit to paying the cost, knowing it’s worth it.