

## FINISHING STRONG

Your Story

July 15, 2018

“The godly may trip seven times, but they will get up again . . .” **Proverbs 24:16 NLT**

*“I have fought a good fight, I have finished the race, and I have remained faithful.”* **2 Timothy 4:7 NLT**

### ESSENTIAL SKILLS FOR FINISHING STRONG

#### SKILL #1: Master your moods.

*“A person without self-control is as defenseless as a city with broken-down walls.”* **Proverbs 25:28 NLT**

**Habit #1: Act before feeling.**

“Now finish the work, so that your eager willingness to do it may be matched by your completion of it . . .” **2 Corinthians 8:11 NIV**

**Habit #2: Affirm God’s Word.**

Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.” **Proverbs 4:23 NIV**

*“Don’t copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God’s will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.”* **Romans 12:2 NLT**

#### SKILL #2: Maintain your focus.

*“Anyone who lets himself be distracted from the work I plan for him is not fit for the Kingdom of God.”*

**Luke 9:62 LB**

**Habit: Review your life.**

*“Cultivate these things. Immerse yourself in them. The people will all see you mature right before their eyes! Keep a firm grasp on both your character and your teaching. Don’t be diverted. Just keep at it . . .”*

**1 Timothy 4:15-16 Message**

“Examine yourselves to see whether you are in the faith; test yourselves.” **2 Corinthians 13:5a NIV**

#### Review Your Life:

**#1: Review your goals and values.**

**#2: Remind yourself why you’re doing what you’re doing.**

**#3: Read God’s Word.**

#### SKILL #3: Manage your time.

*“Those who work their land will have abundant food, but those who chase fantasies have no sense.”*

**Proverbs 12:11 NIV**

**Quote:** *“Besides the noble art of getting things done, there is the noble art of leaving things undone. The wisdom of life consists in the elimination of nonessentials.”*

**Schedule your values.**

**SKILL #4: Maximize your talents.**

**Key Habits:**

**Habit #1: Learn.**

*“Those who get wisdom do themselves a favor, and those who love learning will succeed.”*

**Proverbs 19:8 NCV**

**Habit #2: Serve.**

*“Until I come, devote yourself . . . Do not neglect your gift, which was given you through prophecy when the body of elders laid their hands on you. Be diligent in these matters; give yourself wholly to them, so that everyone may see your progress.”* **1 Timothy 4:13-15 NIV**