

[SUMMER 2022] JUNE 2-AUG 4

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FINISHING STRONG



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July 23 Oasis Room



Finishing Strong Chapter 2: Finishing So-So

Potential Ambushes

Money - Women - Neglected Family

Ambush – surprise attack by people lying in wait in a concealed position

4 Key Questions

- 1. Do you spend personal time with the Lord in prayer and reading the scripture at least 3 x a week?
- 2. Are there at least 1-2 men in your life with whom you have built a friendship based on trust, confidentiality, and accountability?
- 3. Are you currently spending significant time with any attractive woman other than your wife?
- 4. Are you absolutely sure you will finish strong?



Finishing Strong

Finishing strong requires Assessment -

Honest

Assessment at all stages of life.

An honest assessment requires Humility

Humility

- 1 Peter 5:6 <u>Humble yourselves</u>, therefore, <u>under God's mighty hand</u>, that <u>he may lift you up</u> in <u>due time</u>.
- James 4:10 <u>Humble yourselves</u> before the Lord, and <u>he will lift you</u> up.
- James 4:6 But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says: :God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble."
- Proverbs 11:2 When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with humility comes wisdom.
- Proverbs 13:10 Where there is strife, there is pride, but wisdom is found in those who take advice.
- Philippians 2:3 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves.

Integrity / Character

Character

- -The combination of mental characteristics and behavior that distinguishes a person or group. synonym: disposition.
- The distinguishing nature of something. synonym: quality.
- Moral strength; integrity.

Integrity

- Steadfast adherence to a strict moral or ethical code.
- The state of being unimpaired; soundness.
- The quality or condition of being whole or undivided; completeness.

Integrity / Character

Ministry requires humility – Ministry doesn't require giftedness.

The qualification for ministry is Proven Character

Romans 5:3-5 NLT

- 3 We can rejoice, too, when we run into problems and trials, for we know that they help us develop endurance.
- 4 And endurance develops strength of character, and character strengthens our confident hope of salvation.
- 5 And this hope will not lead to disappointment. For we know how dearly God loves us, because he has given us the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with his love.

God doesn't call the equipped He equips the called.

Table Questions

- 1. Discuss the 4 key questions for avoiding ambushes. Which ambush do you think is the most troublesome, or most potential trouble for you? Why?
- 2. What do you think of when you hear the word humility or humble? What are some ways you can show humility to others?
- 3. What is proven character to you? Discuss the difference between character & integrity? Discuss how they are intertwined?

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