

PAUL: PERSECUTOR TO PREACHER

Finish

For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time has come for my departure.
(2 Tim. 4:6)

A strong finish requires several commitments along the way...

- **Rely on the grace empowering you** – “You then, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.” (2 Tim. 2:1)
- **Hold fast to the truth taught you** – “What you heard from me, keep as the pattern of sound teaching, with faith and love in Christ Jesus. Guard the good deposit that was entrusted to you – guard it with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us.” (2 Tim. 1:13-14)

¶ *Some Christians have plenty of beliefs but not enough convictions – “But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of...” (2 Tim. 3:14a)*

- **Ignite the gift(s) within you** – “For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands.” (2 Tim. 1:6)
- **Complete the ministry assigned you** – “But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of the evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry.” (2 Tim. 4:5)
- **Fight the temptations confronting you** – “Flee the evil desires of youth, and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.” (2 Tim. 2:22)
- **Build a godly team around you** – “Do your best to come to me quickly... Only Luke is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, because he is helpful to me in my ministry.” (2 Tim. 4:9, 11)
- **Don’t quit when trials attack you** – “Endure hardship with us like a good soldier of Christ Jesus.” (2 Tim. 2:3)
- **Leave some disciples behind you** – “And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others.” (2 Tim. 2:2)

I have fought THE good fight, I have finished THE race, I have kept THE faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award me on that day... (2 Tim. 4:7-8a)