

Main Street Church - Life Group Guide

Message: **PERSEVERE – Part 6**

March 10, 2019



Connect (15min) – Share refreshments.

***BUCKET LIST:** Get into groups of 3-4 people and share 3 things that you have (or might put) on your 'Bucket List'.

***READ:** Have 3 people read [Ecclesiastes 12:1-7](#); [Romans 14:7-8](#); [Hebrew 9:27-28](#).

***PRAY:** Ask another person to open in Thanksgiving to God & Prayer for the Group.

Sunday Message Feedback (35-45min)

***Speaker:** Shawn Vandop – Lead Pastor. **Message:** PERSEVERE – Part 6.

1. FINISHING WELL:

a. What is one thing that you have *finished well*?

e.g. *a race, a journey/trip, an adventure/challenge, a project/course/degree, a commitment/promise...*

b. How did you feel at the finish? What might have happened if you had given up in some way?

c. Is there anything that you are currently working on finishing well?

2. WRITING YOUR OWN EULOGY:

*The current death rate is still 100%; 1in1 people die.

>> Unless Jesus returns in our lifetime, we will experience physical decay & death.

*For those unfamiliar, a eulogy is a piece of writing which praises someone, typically someone who has just passed away. Generally, a eulogy reflects back on the person's life and what they accomplished, the kind of person they were, what they did for others, and the lessons that specific person reading it learned from their life.

a. If you were to write your own eulogy – what would like to have said about you, your life, your impact and legacy on others?

b. If your family & friends were to read a eulogy about you now, while you're still living, how similar would their words be to your answer for the previous question? What might be different?

c. How can sincere consideration of *the end & destination of the race* influence & empower us in the race?

3. THE LIFE, DEATH & RESURRECTION OF JESUS:

"If a man can predict his own death and resurrection, and pull it off, I just go with whatever that man says."

- Andy Stanley

a. Consider what you know about the life, death & resurrection of JESUS...

>> what are 1-2 (of many) things that you can learn and apply to persevering and finishing well?

b. What would He say is essential...? What would He say is not essential...?

4. READ [Hebrews 12:1-4](#)

a. Shawn talked about 3 things we need to do in order to persevere and finish well.

Do you remember what they were?

**Find some people to cheer you on* **Throw off your sin*

**Know your target and have a strategy to get there.*

b. How have they been applied in your life so far? How could you apply them moving forward?

c. **Hebrews 12:1** talks about **a Race that God has “set before us.”**

*What do you think that means? Have you ever thought of your life as a race?

5. **Skim over Hebrews 11** and identify the people that the writer talks about, then read **Hebrews 11:39**.
- What did these people share in common?
 - Who are some people in your life that are faith-filled people?
 - Do you think it is possible to “finish well” by yourself? Why/why not?

6. Read **Hebrews 12:1-2** again

- What are we instructed to “strip off” in our life in order to “finish well?”
& What might be some examples from your own life?
- What are some ways you can be intentional about dealing with the sin in your life?
e.g. personal confession & repentance, accountability with others, Set Free Retreat...
- What does verse 2 tell us?

7. Read **2 Corinthians 4:16-18**; **2 Timothy 4:1-8** & **Philippians 3:12-14**

*What does the Apostle Paul teach us about **perseverance and finishing well** in these verses?

8. **“Catching Kayla”** -- If possible, (as a group) - watch this **extended clip** (15 min) from Sunday’s message about a runner named *Kayla Montgomery* - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1dvKjPzU39o>
- How do you see the story of God’s call in our lives to “finish well” in this story?
 - Consider the fact that JESUS will be waiting for you one day at the finish line...
How does Jesus impact your desire and goal to **finish well**?

Application & Prayer (15-20min)

1. **SERIES RECAP:**

- How has this six week Message Series on Perseverance encouraged, challenged or changed you?
- How can we personally stay focused on Jesus and encourage one another in stage of the race ahead?
- What is your Bible reading/devotional plan for this coming week?

2. **PRAYER:** *Break into groups of 3-4 or Men/Women to enhance the opportunity for sharing and prayer.*

Based on our discussion and the topic of Perseverance & Finishing Well -- **how can we Pray for you personally?*

3. **Memorize:** *And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us.* Hebrews 12:1b

SUGGESTED READING:

http://www.openbible.info/topics/finishing_well

[Hope in the Dark: Believing God Is Good When Life Is Not](#), by Craig Groeschel.

[Didn't See It Coming: Overcoming the 7 Greatest Challenges That No Expects and Everyone Experiences](#), by Carey Nieuwhof.

[Unshakable Hope: Building Our Lives on the Promises of God](#), by Max Lucado.

[It Ain't Over Till It's Over: Persevere for Answered Prayers & Miracles in Your Life](#), by R.T. Kendall

[MOVIE: Run The Race](#)

Announcements

OUR NEXT LG MEETING:

Sun. March 17th. We have a special guest speaker who will be sharing his story with us. There won't be a corresponding Discussion Guide for that Sunday so **plan something else for your Life Group that following week (March 18-23)** – e.g. *Social Event, Serving Event, Prayer & Communion, Movie Night or another Discussion/Study.*

MAKING THE CASE FOR LIFE – Apologetics Training with Scott Klusendorf

Sat. March 23. 9:30am-12:30pm. Main Street Church. Tickets are Free. Please register online: chilliwackprolife.com
Scott Klusendorf is a master in apologetics, and this is an opportunity to learn step-by-step how to make your case persuasively. You will get answers to three questions:

1. How do I simplify the abortion issue for those who think it's complex?
2. How do I defend the pro-life view scientifically and philosophically?
3. How do I refute five common objections to the pro-life view?

*Scott will also be our Sunday morning guest speaker (March 24).

MAIN STREET WOMEN: *Dessert En Blanc*

Sat. April 13. Details & Tickets available soon!

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

Fri. April 19. One Service at 10am.

EASTER SUNDAY SERVICES

Fri. April 21. 9am & 10:45am

MAIN STREET MEN - MAN BREAKFAST

Sat. April 27. 8am-9:30am. Main Street Church – Conference Hall. Tickets - \$5 (Available in April).

BAPTISM SUNDAY

Sun. April 28. During the Sunday Services. Register online: <https://mainstreetchurch.ca/baptism>

SET FREE RETREAT

May 3-4. Friday 5:30pm-9pm / Saturday 9am-7pm. \$40. Info & Registration: <https://mainstreetchurch.ca/set-free>

MAIN STREET MEN – MEN'S DAY at Kawkawa Camp (Hope)

Sat. June 15. 8:30am-9pm. \$55 (inc. food & activities). Details & Registration TBA in April.