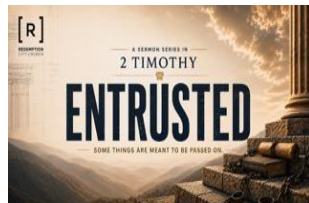


How to Finish Your Race
for Jesus
2 Timothy 4:1-8



STICKY STATEMENT: Jesus didn't save you to start the race.

He saved you to finish it.

From a Roman dungeon, near the end of his life, Paul doesn't just tell Timothy how to run for Jesus — he shows him how to finish.

IF WE'RE GOING TO FINISH OUR RACE FOR JESUS, WE HAVE TO...

1. LIVE _____ AS HIS VOICE. (v.1–4)

"I give you this charge" is courtroom language.

Following Jesus on His terms isn't optional — it's a charge, not a choice.

"Preach the word" = to herald the King's message.

We don't get to change the message; we get to carry it.

"In season and out of season" = when it's convenient and when it's not, when you feel it and when you don't.

Faithfulness, not feelings. Your faith will never follow your feelings — but your feelings will follow your faith.

Itching ears want their ears scratched, not their hearts changed.

2. LIVE INTENTIONALLY _____. (v. 5)

Jesus never saved us to isolate us. He saved us to imitate His life and His love everywhere we go, with everyone we know.

FULFILL YOUR MINISTRY

KEEP A CLEAR MIND — stay focused; don't mix up the good things and the God things.

ENDURE HARDSHIP — stay in it when it starts to cost you.

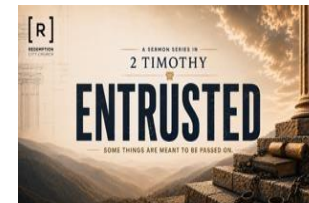
DO THE WORK OF AN EVANGELIST — keep telling your Jesus stories.

FULFILL YOUR MINISTRY — fill it all the way up. Finish what you start.

If the devil can't destroy you, he'll distract you.

We don't live for Sundays — we live for Mondays. What's your platform?

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3. LIVE _____ WITH "NO REGRETS." (vv. 6–8)

"I am already being poured out like a drink offering." (v. 6)

Paul's life was the burnt offering. His death, to the very last drop, was the drink offering.

You will never sacrifice what you do not surrender.

“Departure” = a ship being untied from the dock. For the believer, death isn’t the end — it’s going home.

Most regrets at the end-of-life sound like **“I didn’t.”** Paul’s last words don’t have one.

I HAVE fought the good fight. I HAVE finished the race. I HAVE kept the faith.

THE CROWN OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

A victor’s wreath — not only for Paul, but for **“all who have longed for his appearing.”** (v. 8)

DO THE WORD — 2 TIMOTHY 4:7

“I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.”

Faithfulness, not feelings: Where are you letting your feelings decide your faithfulness — your Bible study, church, giving/tithing, serving, or relationships?

Your out-of-season person: Who have you been praying for and speaking truth to without seeing fruit yet? What would it look like to stay faithful to them for another season?

Name your platform: Who are the 2 or 3 people God has placed in your everyday places? Do they know you follow Jesus?

Surrender before sacrifice: What’s one area of your life you haven’t put on the altar yet? What are you afraid will happen if you surrender it?

Turn an “I didn’t” into an “I have”: If your race ended this week, what would be your biggest “I didn’t”? What’s one step you can take this week so it becomes an “I have”?

Let’s pause this morning and allow the LORD to speak to us ... Ask... “Lord which one of these do I need to get up and do ... so that I can finish my race for Jesus?”

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