

Living for Your Legacy

Spiritual Resolutions for the New Year
December 26 & 27, 2009

2 Timothy 4:6-7

For I am already poured out like a drink offering, and the time has come for my departure. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

Paul describes his spiritual legacy 3 ways...

"I Have Fought the Good Fight..."

1. A Resolution: _____

- A sign you're winning: you're _____

- Take responsibility for the growth areas of...

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

"I Have Finished the Race..."

2. A Resolution: _____

- Avoid disqualifications & discouragements

- 4 D's that keep us from running well

D _____ D _____

D _____ D _____

"I Have Kept the Faith..."

3. A Resolution: _____

- Our part: The _____ of faith.
Romans 1:5

- God's part: The _____ of faith
Galatians 2:20; Philippians 4:13

Questions for Personal Reflection And Group Discussion

1. Discuss the following statement: *"Every life leaves a legacy – that's not an option. The real question is what kind of legacy will we leave?"*

2. 2 Timothy is written near the end of the Apostle Paul's life. Note his statement in chapter 4, verse 6 *"For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time has come for my departure."* He then goes on to describe his legacy of having "fought the good fight". Are you comfortable with the idea of your life as an epic struggle? Refer to Ephesians 6:12 and 2 Corinthians 6:7. Why is it important to embrace the reality of a spiritual battle?

3. Many believers seem to be passive in the 'growth areas' covered in this week's talk. But how about you? As you think of your own spiritual growth, in what areas do you need to take greater responsibility?

4. Paul uses the athletic race metaphor *"I have finished the race (course)"*. In 2 Timothy 2:5, Paul alludes to the possibility of being disqualified when he writes... *"if anyone competes as an athlete, he does not receive the victor's crown unless he competes according to the rules."* What are the keys to discovering & staying on God's course? In what way is our 'course' similar (God's will that is applicable to all)? In what ways is our 'course' personal (God's guidance for our specific lives)?

5. Discuss the 4 D's that can keep us from running well. What are your thoughts about Pastor John's statement that two of the biggest deceptions we face are: a) "It's about me", and b) "God wants me happy". What are the implications of buying into these deceptions?

6. Discuss this statement: "A life of faith is a life of obedience to God's will."

7. Discuss this statement: "A life of faith is a life that must be lived by the power of God in us." Galatians 2:20 & Philippians 4:13