

# sermon notes

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Pastor Tony Caffey, VBVF | Second Timothy | October 6, 2024  
"The Art of Finishing Well (Part 1)" | **2 Timothy 4:6–15**

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## *Those who finish life well must...*

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- 1) Live their \_\_\_\_\_ in sacrificial obedience to

\_\_\_\_\_ (4:6–7)

- 2) Keep their \_\_\_\_\_ on the

\_\_\_\_\_ (4:8)

- 3) Deal with \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ (4:9–10)

- 4) Find tough-minded \_\_\_\_\_ for tough

\_\_\_\_\_ (4:11–12)

- 5) Overcome \_\_\_\_\_,

and personal \_\_\_\_\_ (4:13–15)

## Questions for further application of God's Word:

### GO DEEPER

What does it mean for a believer to finish well? From the world's perspective, did Paul finish well? Would people in this world see Paul languishing away in a prison, awaiting execution, as a success? Analyze Paul's situation from God's perspective. How is the world's perspective different from God's?

Read 2 Timothy 4:6–15. At this point in your life would you be able to say what Paul says in 2 Timothy 4:7? Why or why not? Is finishing well a priority for you? Why or why not? According to 4:8, what eternal hope do believers who finish well have?

### GET PERSONAL

At the end of his life, Paul had Timothy, Mark, Luke, Titus, Tychicus, Priscilla, and Aquilla as friends and co-laborers. Why is it important to have tough-minded friends for tough times? Who are some people that you are making relational deposits with in your life? Why is it important to have fellow runners finishing the race of life alongside of you?

How do we know that Paul dealt with personal betrayal? List all the examples of this in 2 Timothy (and 1 Timothy). Is there any way to live the Christian life free from relational disappointments and personal betrayal? Take a moment to assess your own experiences in this regard. Have those experiences drawn you closer to Christ? What about to the church? Should they?

### PUT IT INTO PRACTICE

Consider this following statement: "Finishing is the final virtue of God's elect." Do you agree with that statement? Is it possible to live like hell on earth, and claim heaven in death? Identify specific Scriptures that support your answer to that question.

### ADVANCED QUESTION

What is the "crown of righteousness" that Paul mentions in verse 8? Is it a literal crown? Do all believers receive this crown or only the ones (like Paul) that were especially good at finishing well? What rewards or crowns will we receive in eternity? See the following podcast by John Piper to help you answer this question: <https://www.desiringgod.org/interviews/whats-the-appeal-of-heavenly-rewards-other-than-getting-christ>