



How Do You Get to The Finish Line? (Be Consistent)

April 3, 2022

Text: Series Scripture John 19: 28-30, (NKJV)

- **28** After this, Jesus, **knowing that all things were now accomplished**, that the Scripture might be fulfilled, said, “I thirst!” **29** Now a vessel full of sour wine was sitting there; and they filled a sponge with sour wine, put *it* on hyssop, and put *it* to His mouth. **30** So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, “**It is finished!**” And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit.

Note Presentation: Five Day Passion Week Map: <https://bg3-blog.s3.amazonaws.com/blog/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/QuickViewBiblepassion.jpg>

Series Introduction:

Four Questions We Need To Explore About Finishing

1. Why do some people **always** finish? (They are consistently managing their time, building stamina, and walking in faith, or C.T.S.F.)
2. Why some people **never** finish? (They are not consistent)
3. Why did **Jesus** always finish? (He was consistent)
4. Why do some people finish without **burning out**? (They consistently pace themselves)

Statement: Finishing is a skill that some people will never develop because they are not willing to consistently invest in their goals and ambitions.

Four Elements Necessary to Finish

1. **Consistency:** April 3, 2022 (You must routinely invest to finish strong)
2. **Time:** April 10, 2022 (You must respect time to finish) ... Palm Sunday
3. **Stamina:** Live-Easter Sunday April 17, 2022 (You need prolonged mental and physical effort)
4. **Faith:** April 24, 2022 (You must believe in God, yourself, and others to finish)

Four Questions I Want to Explore This Month

1. How Does **Consistency** Help You Finish? (It creates the soil that grows your opportunities)
2. How Does **Time** Help You Finish? (Consistency gives you time to finish)
3. How Does **Stamina** Help You Finish? (Stamina builds toughness and enough bandwidth to finish)
4. How Does **Faith** Help You Finish? (Consistency builds faith and strength to finish, Romans 5:3-5)

I. An Example of How Consistency Helps You Finish Matthew 25:24-27

Statement: Consistency creates the soil that opportunity and blessing can grow in!

II. Two Consistent Guys Eagerly Finish Their Assignment (Matthew 25:14–18, NIV)

A. Three guys are given an opportunity to invest

- 14 “Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them. 15 To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey.

B. Two guys eagerly invested what they were given

- 16 The man who **had received five bags of gold** went at once and put his money to work and gained five bags more. 17 So also, **the one with two bags of gold** gained two more.

Note: He celebrates with both guys (Matthew 25:23)

- 23 “His master replied, ‘**Well done, good and faithful servant!** You have been faithful with a few things; **I will put you in charge of many things.** Come and **share your master’s happiness!**’

A. The quality of their work is celebrated (Well done, good...)

B. The consistency of their work is celebrated (faithful servant)

III. One Inconsistent Guy Does Not Finish His Assignment

One guy never invested what he was given

- 18 But the man who had received one bag went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.

**IV. God's Response To The Inconsistent
Guy That Never Finished
(Matthew 25:24-30)**

A. He rebukes him for being wicked and lazy

- 24 "Then the man who had received one bag of gold came. 'Master,' he said, 'I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. 25 So I was afraid and went out and hid your gold in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.'
- 26 "His master replied, '**You wicked, lazy** servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed? 27 Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest.

B. He gives his gift to the most gifted and consistent person of the three

- 28 ' So take the bag of gold from him and give it to the one who has ten bags. 29 For whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them. 30 And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. '

Next Time: It's Time To Finish

Matthew 25:14-15, 19 (Time always runs out; cp. John 19:30)