

Aim, Finish, Testify

24 However, I consider my life worth nothing to me; my only aim is to finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me—the task of testifying to the good news of God’s grace. Acts 20:24

Aim is directly related to purpose.

Most of the reasons people give for being Christians have nothing to do with Christ, His sacrifice, or His grace.

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. 2 Timothy 4:7

24 Five times I received from the Jews the forty lashes minus one. 25 Three times I was beaten with rods, once I was pelted with stones, three times I was shipwrecked, I spent a night and a day in the open sea, 26 I have been constantly on the move. I have been in danger from rivers, in danger from bandits, in danger from my fellow Jews, in danger from Gentiles; in danger in the city, in danger in the country, in danger at sea; and in danger from false believers. 2 Corinthians 11:24-26

Finish is all about follow through.

The kind of people this world needs are deeply devoted followers of Jesus willing to do whatever is necessary to make a difference.

“The Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life.” Luke 9:22

42 “Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done.” 44 And being in anguish, he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat was like drops of blood falling to the ground. Luke 22:42,44

45 When he rose from prayer and went back to the disciples, he found them asleep, exhausted from sorrow. 46 “Why are you sleeping?” he asked them. “Get up and pray so that you will not fall into temptation.” Luke 22:45-46

On reaching the place, he said to them, “Pray that you will not fall into temptation.” Luke 22:40

And lead us not into temptation. Luke 11:4

Testify is all about what God did.

Embrace the call on your life to abandon your life or the sake of Christ.

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Our lives may not be in danger, but the temptation to think only of ourselves is equally demanding.