

Finish Your Race

by Sherry Jones

There are a lot of people who start a project or begin heading toward a dream, but they never finish what they start. Many people have good intentions and really mean well, but due to different reasons, they never follow through and finish. There was a man in the Bible that was determined to finish and complete to the full what God had called him to do. The apostle Paul declared in Acts 20:24, “But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry which I have received of the Lord Jesus.”

Paul said, “I don’t know what is awaiting me in Jerusalem but none of these things move me.” So he announced, “I’m going to finish my course.” And we know that at the end of his life, he wrote to Timothy in 2 Tim. 4:7, “I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith.” He had all kinds of opposition and difficulties, but the circumstances he endured never caused him to cave in and collapse under pressure. He even called rejection from friends, being severely beaten, being shipwrecked, suffering perils in the city, in the wilderness, and at sea as “light afflictions.” He refused to let adversity and difficult situations overcome him in his life. He viewed them as “small stuff.” How could he do this? There was something working on the inside of him that was greater than any circumstances that he encountered.

He discovered that God had radically changed him because of his union with Christ. He knew by revelation that he was a brand new person and that he was called to live a supernatural life. Paul knew that he was the workmanship of God and that he was a new creation. He understood that he had eternal life, and that he was righteous and blessed. He recognized that he was completely free, victorious, and fully qualified for ministry based on what Jesus did through his death, burial, and resurrection. Paul knew that divine healing was an accomplished fact and that prosperity was also included in redemption. Paul majored on these truths and as a result, he tackled every situation and problem from the position of knowing who he was in Christ. These truths had become reality to him. They also must become reality to us and they will if we will do a few simple things.

- 1) Accept these truths at face value
- 2) Don’t try to figure them out in your head
- 3) Act like the Bible is true
- 4) Make expressing these truths, through speaking and declaring them part of your daily lifestyle