

FINISHING WHAT YOU START

Review Part 1

“Finish what you began to do. Then your willingness will be matched by what you accomplish.” 2 Corinthians 8:11 (GWT)

REVEIW

I. WHY WE SOMETIMES FAIL TO FINISH

A half-finished wall (Nehemiah 4:6-11)

- _____
“(They) said, ‘The strength of the laborers is giving out...’”
- _____
“And there is so much trash and rubble to be removed...”
- _____
“...We ourselves are unable to rebuild the wall.”
- _____
“Meanwhile, our enemies are planning to swoop down upon us and kill us, thus ending our work.”

II. HOW TO FINISH WHAT YOU START

1. STOP _____
“The lazy person is full of excuses...” Proverbs 22:13 (NLT)

2. START _____
“If your gift is to encourage others, do it! If you have money, share it generously! If God has given you leadership ability, take the responsibility! If you have a gift for showing kindness to others, do it gladly!” Romans 12:8 (NLT)

2 Traps

“If you wait for perfect conditions, you’ll never get anything done!” Ecclesiastes 11:4 (LB)

“Never boast about tomorrow. You don’t know what will happen between now and then.” Proverbs 27:1 (GN)

Part 2

3. FOCUS ON _____
“Don’t get tired of doing what is good. Don’t get discouraged and give up, for you will reap a harvest of blessing at the appropriate time.” Galatians 6:9 (NLT)

“God is watching you, and He will know. He will reward each person for what he has done.” Proverbs 24:12 (NCV)

4. DEPEND ON _____
“... Do it with all the strength and energy that God supplies. Then God will be given glory.” 1 Peter 4:11 (NLT)

Jesus: “I have brought you glory on earth by completing the work You have Me to do.” John 17:4 (NIV)

Paul: “I only want to complete my mission and finish the work that the Lord Jesus gave me to do...” Acts 20:24 (GN)

What do I need to finish?
What’s my next step?

“Having started the ball rolling so enthusiastically, you should carry this project through to completion just as gladly, giving whatever you can out of whatever you have. Let your enthusiasm at the start be equaled by realistic action now.” 2 Corinthians 8:10-11 (LB)