

Sermon Outline
June 3, 2010

"Advice from the Other Side"

Everyone looks forward to GRADUATION.

Graduation is just the BEGINNING.

However, I consider my life worth nothing to me, if only I may finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me—the task of testifying to the gospel of God's grace. Acts 20:24

Advice from the other side:

1. REMEMBER where you came from.

Timothy, my son, I give you this instruction in keeping with the prophecies once made about you, so that by following them you may fight the good fight, holding on to faith and a good conscience. Some have rejected these and so have shipwrecked their faith. 1 Timothy 1:18-19

2. CONSIDER what you've been taught from God's Word.

Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus. Philippians 3:12-14

Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last; but we do it to get a crown that will last forever. Therefore I do not run like a man running aimlessly; I do not fight like a man beating the air. No, I beat my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize. 1 Corinthians 9:25-27

3. FIND encouraging people along the way.

Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work: If one falls down, his friend can help him up. But pity the man who falls and has no one to help him up! Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm. But how can one keep warm alone? Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

4. GO all in!

Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. Deuteronomy 6:5

Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; Proverbs 3:5

So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God. 1 Corinthians 10:31

5. VISUALIZE the finish line.

I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus. Philippians 3:14

Action Steps:

ENTER the race

ENJOY the small successes while keeping your eyes on the goal.

ENCOURAGE those who are struggling along the way.

The Bottom Line: A GRADUATION DAY lies in everyone's future... are you prepared?