



Thursday Thought

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Finishing Strong

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Verse for the week: 2 Timothy 4:7 (NLT) I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, and I have remained faithful.

Whenever we put together a resume or go for an interview we usually strive to make ourselves look good. Once we get the job we work very hard at doing a great job and try to impress those who are overseeing us. We do this because we want to make a good impression. We want people to see that we are valuable. But what happens when we leave? I believe that leaving is every bit as important as the resume, the interview, and our first days. Why, because the last days leave a lasting impression that will overshadow all of the previous positives. This is why I always advise others to “**Finish Strong!**”

What does it mean to Finish Strong?

- It means give it your best even when you know you are leaving! The tendency is to slack off. Do you remember “senioritis” (An ebbing of motivation and effort by school seniors as evidenced by tardiness, absences, and lower grades – Merriam-Webster Dictionary)? I think it doesn’t just affect seniors in High School and college but it can affect individuals leaving one job and going to another, or even retirement. 2 John 1:8a (NLT) says “**Watch out that you do not lose what we have worked so hard to achieve.**” Keep working to pursue excellence!
- It means give it your best even when you aren’t happy with your job or you feel that you’ve been treated unfairly. When you work with people, things happen. It’s emotionally hard and it’s easy to justify not giving your best. We ALWAYS need to remember who we are working for! **Colossians 3:23(NLT)** says, “**Work willingly at whatever you do, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people.**”

It's not always easy to finish strong but it's important to our personal integrity. People are watching. May we be able to say as the Apostle Paul said in **2 Timothy 4:7 (NLT)** “**I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, and I have remained faithful.**”

Challenge Question: Maybe you are not planning on leaving your job, but it’s still important to do your best. How are you doing?