



DATE	June 18, 2017
SPEAKER	David Smith
TITLE	Finishing Well
SERIES	Some heroes look better from a distance. Others – including a leader, a prime minister, a martyr, a boy, a bold woman and a man who lost everything – look better up close and personal. But no matter how you look at them, they’ve left epic legacies for us to examine as we create legacies of our own.

Today’s sermon dives into the 1st of 10 heroes: Demas who teaches us a type of legacy that might not be worth imitating. On the other hand, it demonstrates how Paul ran his race with excellence and his spiritual execution was worthy of emulation. Furthermore, Pastor Smith goes deeper into eight steps to implement in order to plan our legacy, in order to finish well our spiritual race. Thus, it encourages us to create the desired legacy for our children, spouses, parents, family, the people in our community and beyond.

1. Who was Demas? Consider reading the below bible verses and discuss among your group.
 - One of Paul’s “fellow workers” in the gospel ministry (Philemon verse 24)
 - Also with Paul in Rome, during Paul’s first imprisonment (Colossians 4:14)
 - Deserted Paul and left for Thessalonica, during Paul’s second imprisonment (2 Timothy 4:10)
2. Pastor said, ""Simplicity is an opportunity to exercise spiritual discipline" - in what ways can this be implemented or seen in our lives?
 - Please take a few minutes to write or rewrite your Legacy in two words or a sentence the following:
 - I. What type of Legacy would you like to leave for your children?
 - II. What type of legacy would you like to leave for your spouse?
 - III. What type of legacy would you like to leave for you parents?
 - IV. What type of legacy would you like to leave for your employees, employer, co-workers and/or community?
3. 2 Timothy 4:10 states, “...for Demas, because he loved this world, has deserted me and has gone to Thessalonica...”. What does the Bible say about loving this world?

Reflect on the following verses

- 1 John 2:15-17 says, “Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in them. For everything in the world - the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life - comes not from the Father but from the world. The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever”
- Matthew 6:24 says, “No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money”

4. Pastor Smith mentioned there are some people that look better from a distance than up close. While growing up was there someone you had looked up to that ended up looking better from a distance than up close? On the other hand, was there someone you knew who ended up looking better up close than from a distance?

5. Proverbs 14:15 says "The simple believe anything but the prudent give thought to their steps." What or Who influences you to be the best version of you? How are you being shaped?

6. Pastor Smith mentions 8 ways to finish well

- I. Have a life plan
- II. Make decisions ahead of time
- III. Exercise soul care
- IV. Take regular related audits
- V. Embrace change
- VI. Find and exercise your core gifts
- VII. Mentor someone younger
- VIII. Affirm all the time

Which of these 8 ways to finish well do you find you need to work on the most, or you find more important above the rest to start or continue to implement and why or how will it/they transform or shape you?

7. What is the one thing you want said about you at your funeral?

8. If we adopt David's statement "Fix problems rather than find blame," how could our relationships improve?

Please consider sharing your legacy plan and most importantly apply it in your daily life at home and with your circle of influence by affirming and mentoring others. Finish strong in God's name.