



Pastor's Perspective — To Finish Well

By Dr. Ron D. Lindholm, Senior Pastor

"He fought the good fight. He finished the race. He kept the faith." I can't tell you the number of times I've heard Paul's

words in 2 Timothy 4:7 adapted as a testament to the life of the deceased at a memorial service, and then had someone come up to me afterward hoping and praying that "when my time comes, that will be said of me." But I have a better idea....

Instead of looking years ahead to "when our time comes" and speculating on whether we'll finish well, let's ask ourselves how well we're finishing now in the shorter, less glamorous dashes of life.

Take, for example, that children's Sunday School class you agreed to teach for a couple of months. Are you doing your best to pray and prepare each week, or are you winging it?

How about that project you're working on for your boss? Will the finished product be first-class, or simply mediocre?

And what about the situation when you're called to do some behind-the-scenes work? Do you stay at it until it's done right, or do you settle for "good enough to get by"?

*...look at how you are finishing
in the short dashes today.*

Ruth Harms Calkin contemplates questions like these in a beautiful poem titled "I Wonder."

*You know, Lord, how I serve You
With great emotional fervor
In the limelight.
You know how eagerly I speak for You
At a women's club.
You know how I effervesce when I promote
A fellowship group.
You know my enthusiasm
At a Bible study.*

*But how would I react, I wonder
If You pointed to a basin of water
And asked me to wash the calloused feet
Of a bent and wrinkled old woman
Day after day
Month after month
In a room where nobody saw
And nobody knew.**

Do you really want to know how well you're going to finish in the future? Then look at how you are finishing in the short dashes today.

*"I Wonder" by Ruth Harms Calkin, *Tell Me Again Lord, I Forget* (Wheaton: Tyndale House Publishers, 1974), 23.

"The Fields Are Ripe for Harvest"

This year's Missions Conference is September 5-7. Our missionaries will be developing the theme "The Fields are Ripe for Harvest, based on John 4:35- "Do you not say, 'Four months more and then the harvest'? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest."

The conference will feature three missionary families:

- Bill and Denise Braun and family – Association of Baptists for World Evangelism, Church Planting in Eastern Europe
- Travis and Becky Gravley and family – Baptist Mid-Missions, Church Planting, Romania
- Mike and Pretty VanProoyen and family – Word of Life International, Evangelism, the Philippines



You may have already heard of the VanProoyens from the work Pastor Lindholm has done at Word of Life in the Philippines over the years.

Mike grew up in a Christian home, here in the U.S. When he was 16, he went on a missions trip to Word of Life in the Philippines to help paint the cabins at the camp. While there, he witnessed a joy and passion for Christ in the lives of the students that he felt was

missing in his own life. When he returned to the U.S., he realized what they had, that was missing in his own life: a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. He had been caught up in cultural Christianity, but had never experienced a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. It was then that he put his faith and trust in Jesus. God opened the door for him to return to Word of Life, this time as a student of The Word.

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2014 Bible Memory Project
August Verse

In bringing many sons to glory, it was fitting that God, for whom and through whom everything exists, should make the author of their salvation perfect through suffering.
Hebrews 2:10

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He is now the Youth Ministry Director there. Mike works closely with the managers of their Local Church Ministries, Campus Ministry, Camping Ministry and Evangelism Ministry, providing leadership and guidance. He is involved in speaking in camps and conferences, leadership seminars, Gospel seminars and many other ministries. He finds that personal evangelism is the most exciting part of his ministry. He is involved in leading evangelistic ministry trips throughout the Philippines several times each year.



Pretty accepted Jesus as her Savior at the age of 14. Then, in 2001, her sister invited her to the Word of Life Bible Institute, where she dedicated her life to full-time ministry. After graduation, and a 6-month missions trip to Malaysia, she returned to Word of Life to serve on the camping ministry staff. It was there she met Mike, and they were married. They now have two beautiful children: Hannah and J.M.

Look for further information about the conference in upcoming Sunday bulletins and next month's newsletter. There will be numerous opportunities for hospitality and fellowship.

Money Matters

July Giving Per Week (General Fund)	\$3,944
Budgeted Needs Per Week	\$5,131
Budgeted Receipts to Date	\$138,779
Budgeted Needs to Date	\$153,930

Take Me Out to the Ball Game!
Washington Nationals
-v-
San Francisco Giants
August 22 @ 7:05 PM
\$10.00/person

See Ron Wasserstein (703-372-2093 — ron@amstat.org) by August 17 to make payment. Join us as we "root, root, root for the home team!"

August Calendar	
Aug. 12	Nursing Home Ministry (2:00 PM)
Aug. 15	Women's Movie Night (7:00 PM)
Aug. 17	Joel Wasserstein Missions Trip Report (6:00 PM)
Aug. 20	Missions Prayer Meeting (7:30 PM)
Aug. 22	Washington Nationals' Game (7:05 PM)
Aug. 24	Missions Cupboard Shower & Ice Cream Social (after PM Service)
Sep. 5-7	Missions Conference

Save the Date!! - Men's Retreat

November 21 & 22
Skycroft Conference & Retreat Center
Middletown, Maryland
Speaker: Paul Briggs

Missionary Cupboard Shower & Ice Cream Social

Join us on Sunday evening, August 24, for a time of fellowship as well as an opportunity to restock our Missionary Cupboard in preparation for the Missions Conference. A list of needed items will be made available at the church.

Praise the Lord for a Wonderful VBS!



Fellowship Baptist Church

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