



Finish Strong Following in the Footsteps of Paul • Part 2

Lesson 15 • Colossians 4:17-18

Colossians 4:7-18 reminds us that our ministry to others is the overflow of our relationship with Christ. 12 people are mentioned by name. Each one sought to **make their mark for eternity**. We are **following in the footsteps of those who fulfilled their ministries**, so we too can make our mark for eternity!

"My country did not send me 5,000 miles to start the race, they sent me 5,000 miles to finish the race." - John Steven Akwari, Mexico City Olympics

How Did Paul Make His Mark as the Apostle to the Gentiles? 2Timothy 4:9-22

He persevered in finding strength in the _____ through His _____ to finish strong for the Lord by fulfilling his ministry from the Lord!

- Paul finished strong by _____ his strength in the Lord.

But the Lord stood by me and strengthened me, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed and bring me safely into his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen. 2Timothy 4:17-18

First Words Paul Wrote: *Grace to you* and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, *Galatians 1:3*

Last Words Paul Wrote: The Lord be with your spirit. *Grace be with you. 2Timothy 4:22*

What Is Grace?

Grace is a gift from God in Christ by the Spirit that we do not deserve and can never earn!

It is the power and desire to do whatever pleases God for Christ's glory, our good, and the joy of all peoples!

Philippians 2:12-13; Hebrews 13:20-21

- Paul finished strong by _____ his strength through the Word.

When you come, bring the cloak that I left with Carpus at Troas, also the books, and above all the parchments. 2Timothy 4:13

What Were the Books and the Parchments?

- Copies and translations of the **Old Testament books of the Bible?**
- Copies and portions of **Christ's sayings, (most of?) which are now found in the Gospels?**
- Copies of **Paul's letters to the churches?**

What Did Paul Do with the Word Once He Got It?

1) Paul _____ the Word for himself. *Colossians 3:16*

2) Paul _____ the Word to others in ministry. *Colossians 3:16-17; Ephesians 5:18-21*

"Preach the word in season and out of season" 2Timothy 4:2; 2:1-2; 1 Timothy 4:13-16

What Happens When the Word Is at Home in Our Hearts? *Colossians 3:16-17; Ephesians 5:18-21*

- We **speak** to one another about the Lord: *His worth, His Word, His work, and His ways.*
- We **sing** to the Lord with all our heart: *Who He is, what He has done, will do, and is doing right now in your life!*
- We **show gratitude** to the Father in all things in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ!
- We **seek** to live for the fame of His name in everything we do, no matter what we are doing or where we are.
- We **submit** to one another in order to sacrificially love and serve one another in our roles and relationships.

3) Paul _____ with the Word in the church. *Colossians 4:17-18*

Follow in the Footsteps of Paul ~ Colossians 4:18 and 2 Timothy 4:2, 13
FINISH STRONG FOR THE LORD BY FINDING STRENGTH IN THE LORD through HIS WORD
TO FULFILL YOUR MINISTRY FROM THE LORD!

Make Your Mark: *Persevere in Finding Strength in the Word to Finish Strong for the Lord.*

1. Read the Word to _____ it for yourself.

► Check out these **print resources** to use in 2013:

- Year Long Devotionals** from Walk Thru the Bible (www.walkthru.org/)

One Year at His Feet Devotional Book – 365 readings based on a quote from Jesus Himself in the gospels

One Year Walk with God Devotional Book – 365 readings written to renew your mind and transform your thinking

One Year Worship the King Devotional Book – 365 readings written to take your worship beyond Sunday morning

One Year Wonder of the Cross Devotional Book – 365 readings from Acts, Revelation, and New Testament letters on the cross

Plus *YouthWalk Devotions* – 26 weeks of devotions on sex, parents, popularity, and other topics

- More for teens: **The One Year Devotional** – 6 days a week for 52 your teen will walk through the gospels with Jesus (NIV)
The Bible in 366 Days Youth Edition – Takes your teen through portions of the whole Bible in 366 days (NLT)
- 90 Days Thru the Bible: A Devotional Journey from Walk Thru the Bible** – This book is not actually reading scripture; it is about getting an overview of the entire Bible in 90 days.
- The Bible in 90 Days** (biblein90days.org) – This is an actual Bible designed to help you read the entire Bible in 90 days. (NIV)
- Read the Bible for Life** (bhpublishinggroup.com/readthebible/) – Tons of resources including free audio and reading plans

► Check out these **digital resources** to use in 2013:

- YouVersion.com** has a variety of translations and reading plans @ www.youversion.com
- Read the Bible for Life Bible Reader** – Includes the complete Holman Christian Standard Bible and a sample of the book, *Read the Bible for Life* by Dr. George Guthrie. (FREE app at iTunes.)
- 90 Days Thru the Bible: A Devotional Journey from Walk Thru the Bible** (Kindle)
- iTunes** has all sorts of apps for your tablet or smart phone.
- GlenwoodConnection.org** – Check out links for a variety of resources to help you **KNOW, GROW, SHOW, and GO** under **Ministries > Discipleship**. See **link at bottom of the page**.

2. Read the Word to _____ it to others in ministry.

► Renew your commitment to share God's Word to help others KNOW, GROW, SHOW, and GO with Christ!

3. Read the Word to _____ with it in the church.

► Renew your commitment to apply God's Word to yourself and your leadership relationships, roles, and responsibilities.

Make Your Mark: Follow in the Footsteps of Paul and Finish Strong in the Word!
Persevere in Finding Strength in the Word to Finish Strong for the Lord!

“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.”

