

November 27 – December 03

27 Sunday	28 Monday	29 Tuesday	30 Wednesday No Bible class.	01 Thursday	02 Friday Happy Birthday, Mark	03 Saturday Happy Birthday, Randy
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2 birthdays and 0 anniversaries this week.
Curtis is out of town today.

November 20, 2022
Contributions: \$1,084.00
Attendance: 30

Campus minister: **Caleb Hughes**
Minister: **Curtis Wubbena**

WiFi name: ALPINECHURCH402
Password: b14Smiley
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Welcome to the Alpine church of Christ

November 27, 2022



Ordinary people serving an extraordinary God.



Finishing God's Work
well in 2022!

Let's finish well in 2022!

The phrase “finishing well” means different things to different people. To some, it means acquiring the most “toys” and wealth. For others, it may mean spending their final years in comfortable retirement. But for the Christian, finishing well means faithfully following Jesus Christ to the very end of our lives and completing the tasks He assigned us so we can one day hear Him declare, “Well done, good and faithful servant” ([Matthew 25:21](#)). This takes focus, discipline, and commitment—qualities that only grow with a deepening knowledge of Christ and His Word. But there is far too much emphasis in the Christian world today on *experience* and not enough on *knowledge*, even in many evangelical churches and schools. The Christian faith is not mere “feeling” but a willful devotion to a rigorous understanding of the person and work of the Lord Jesus Christ. We can only believe right if we first think right, and this requires true knowledge that only begins with “the fear [i.e., respect, reverence] of the LORD” ([Proverbs 1:7](#)). The New Testament often uses athletic imagery to portray the importance of finishing well. To the believers in Corinth, the apostle Paul described a disciplined runner in a crowded race who ran with one goal: claiming victory at the finish line ([1 Corinthians 9:24-26](#)). To the elders of Ephesus, he emphasized his dedication to ministry by looking forward to finishing his race with joy, even at the cost of his life ([Acts 20:24](#)). And in his final letter to young Timothy, Paul could reflect on a lifetime of commitment with a sense of godly contentment, proclaiming, “I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith” ([2 Timothy 4:7](#)). Perhaps the most concise counsel on finishing well comes from the author of Hebrews: “Let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith” ([Hebrews 12:1-2](#)). Our very essence is because of Jesus, for it is “in Him we live and move and have our being” ([Acts 17:28](#)), and only through Him can we ever really hope to finish well. (*Adapted from Finishing Well, by Henry Morris*)

Ideas to help you finish well.

1. Intimacy With Christ—Our highest calling is to grow in our knowledge of Christ and to make Him known to others. Does our desire to know Christ exceed all other aspirations? If not, whatever is taking His place in the center of our affections must yield to Him if we are to know the joy of bearing spiritual fruit. A key secret of those who finish well is to focus more on loving Jesus than on avoiding sin. The more we love Jesus, the more we will learn to put our confidence in Him alone.
2. Fidelity In The Spiritual Disciplines—Spiritual disciplines such as prayer, fellowship, study, worship, and submission are not ends in themselves, but means to the end of intimacy with Christ and spiritual formation. When left to itself, however, any one of these disciplines tends to decline and decay. An infusion of directed intentionality and effort is necessary to sustain order and growth and to bring repeated times of personal renewal.
3. A Biblical Perspective on the Circumstances of Life—Part of the purpose of our suffering and trials is to drive us to dependence on God alone. God responds by revealing more of Himself to us. This knowledge increases our faith and our capacity to trust His character and His promises through the times we do not understand His purposes and His ways. When we view our circumstances in light of God’s character instead of God’s character in light of our circumstances, we come to see that God is never indifferent to us, and that He uses suffering for our good so we will be more fully united to Christ.
4. A Teachable, Responsive, Humble, and Obedient Spirit—Those who finish well maintain an ongoing learning posture through the seasons of their lives. Humility and responsive obedience are the keys to maintaining a teachable spirit. Humility is the disposition in which we displace self through the enthronement of Christ in our lives and realize that all of life is about trust in God. Obedience is the application of biblical faith in that which is not seen, and that which is not yet. As we mature in Christ, we learn to trust God’s character and promises in spite of ambiguity or trials. (*Adapted from an article by Ken Boa, 7 Characteristics to Help You Finish Well*)