

ccf Chronicle

Start well Finish well

If you want to succeed in your endeavors, in your work and your career, and in the things you do in your life, fearing God and seeking God's guidance in everything is important. Your initial success can help in your future successes. Your initial achievement will provide you with a capital to grow your business. One success may lead to another. So keep in mind that in anything we do or undertake. It is imperative that we seek God's guidance so that we can start well and do our task well.

Uzziah, the king of Judah during tumultuous times with the Philistines, started well and did what was pleasing in God's sight. His people unanimously picked him as a king when he was just 16 years old, and had good moral and spiritual advisers in the person of his father Amaziah, and Zechariah, who "instructed him in the fear of God" (2 Chron. 26:5).

He amassed a huge army, equipped them with the best possible equipment, and made them the most elite military units in the world at that time. He conquered the Philistines, destroyed their cities, and rebuilt entire towns. He fortified Jerusalem with reinforced walls and additional defensive turrets complete with counter-siege equipment. He created numerous tower strongholds in conquered areas to safeguard drinking wells and masses of livestock. In the process, he provided many Judeans with work taking care of both his livestock and vast areas of agricultural produce.

His fame throughout the region spread, even going as far as Egypt. Transformed into an effective leader, he continually beheld the interests of the people. God granted him success in every administrative and personal endeavor he looked into. As one would say it today, Uzziah was on a roll. Why? Simply because "he sought the Lord" (2 Chron. 26:5).

It is ironic that Uzziah ended up not finishing well; being disgraced in his final years. Uzziah grew proud and blatantly changing worship protocols. (2 Chron. 26:16-18). He was then confronted by Azariah and 80 other brave priests. Oftentimes we do not see the consequences of our behavior and actions and it takes someone who cares for us to point things out for us. Uzziah's hardened heart resulted in God striking him with leprosy that lasted until his death. What's worse, Uzziah couldn't be honored even in the grave; he was buried separately from his own royal ancestors simply because he had leprosy (2 Chron. 26:22).

Why is it imperative to finish well with the life and purpose that God gave us? It is a tragedy to run the race but not actually finish it. We all want to finish well because we do not want the hard work and the preparation that went into the race to be all in vain. We do not want to step out of our God-ordained role as Uzziah intentionally did.

Instead, we should consider David, who "served God's purpose in his own generation, according to the will of God..." (Acts 13:36). David started well, had some failures here and there during his reign, but in the end he finished strong and bequeathed a stronger, more stable nation to his son Solomon. How do we do this? Like Uzziah in his more successful years, we should continually seek counsel from the Lord, trusting God with all our hearts and baring before him our undertakings so we will go on a straight path, straight to Christ, finishing the divine roles He has entrusted to each of us.

Do we want to finish well? How do we measure our life against the benchmark of what was written about David? After we're gone, will people say that we have served God's purpose and accomplished what God intended us to do? Is there anything in our life that is hindering us from serving God's purpose or accomplishing what God has intended for us to do? Is there anything in our life that is preventing us from finishing well? Finish well. And for us to finish well, let's follow the advice of the Bible.

God's Gift of Eternal Life is for YOU!



GOD LOVES YOU and desires that you:

Have eternal life with Him.

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life." John 3:16

Have an abundant and meaningful life.

"Jesus said, '... I came that they might have life, and have it abundantly.'" John 10:10

But most people aren't experiencing a meaningful life and aren't sure that they have eternal life because...

Man has a SIN problem that SEPARATES him from GOD.

Everyone has sinned. **"... For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God..." Romans 3:23**

The penalty for sin is DEATH. *"For the wages of sin is death..." Romans 6:23 (also ESV, NIV)*

The Bible talks about two kinds of death. The first death is **physical**. The second death is **spiritual** or eternal separation from God.

"But for the cowardly and unbelieving and abominable and murderers and immoral persons and sorcerers and idolaters and ALL LIARS, their part will be in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone, which is the Second Death." Revelation 21:8

Since sin separates man from God, what is the solution to his problem?

JESUS CHRIST is God's ONLY way to heaven.

He is the **ONLY way**. *"Jesus said... 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but through Me.'" John 14:6*

He **COMPLETELY PAID** the penalty of your sins.

"When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your sinful nature, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave all your sins." Colossians 2:13 For Christ also died for sins once for all, the just for the unjust, in order that He might bring us to God...." 1 Peter 3:18

The RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST assures us of Eternal Life.

Jesus died for our sins, He was buried, and He was raised on the third day

"For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and He was buried, that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures." 1 Corinthians 15:3-4

His resurrection proves that He is the Son of God, the Messiah, the only Savior.

"... Concerning His Son, who was born of a descendant of David according to the flesh, who was declared the Son of God with power by the resurrection from the dead, according to the Spirit of holiness, Jesus Christ our Lord..." Romans 1:3-4

Jesus promises Eternal Life.

"Jesus said ... 'I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me shall live even if he dies, and everyone who lives and believes in Me shall never die..." John 11:25-26

However, merely knowing what Jesus Christ has done for us is not enough.

We must place our FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST to save us.

You are saved by God's grace through faith in Jesus Christ.

"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith - and this is not from yourselves, it is the GIFT OF GOD - not by works, so that no one can boast." Ephesians 2:8-9 (NIV)

To be saved by faith means to **TRUST IN JESUS CHRIST ALONE** to save you. Good works are not the means to salvation; rather, they are the byproducts or evidence of your salvation.

2. Prove the sincerity of your faith by turning away from a life of sin.

"I preached that they should repent and turn to God and prove their repentance by their deeds. A person who genuinely asks for forgiveness will seek to change his ways." Acts 26:20 (NIV)

God knows we are not perfect, but the sincerity of our faith will move us to live lives that show our gratitude to God for His free gift of heaven.

You can pray this simple prayer to express your faith in Jesus Christ and to receive Him into your heart as your Lord and Savior. You only have to pray this prayer once, but with sincerity, because when He enters your life, he will never leave you.

PRAYER: Lord, Jesus Christ... I admit I am sinner, I confess and I repent of all my sins. I believe by faith that You, Jesus, died for my sins, You were buried and You rose again from the dead. I claim Your promise of forgiveness and accept Your gift of eternal life. I thank You for dying on the cross for my sins, I thank You for forgiving my sins and I thank You for giving me eternal life. Amen.

Our CCF Branches

METRO MANILA	LUZON	VISAYAS+ MINDANAO	INTERNATIONAL
Main -	<u>Baguio</u>	<u>Cebu City</u>	<u>Los Angeles</u>
<u>Ortigas</u>	<u>Bataan</u>	<u>Cagayan de Oro</u>	<u>Singapore</u>
<u>Alabang</u>	<u>Cavite</u>	<u>Davao City</u>	<u>Sydney</u>
<u>Eastwood</u>	<u>Isabela</u>	<u>Dipolog</u>	(Affiliate)
<u>Las Piñas</u>	<u>La Union</u>	<u>Iligan</u>	
<u>Makati</u>	<u>Malolos</u>	<u>Malaybalay</u>	
<u>Marikina</u>	<u>Marilao</u>	<u>Manolo Fortich</u>	
<u>Muntinlupa</u>	<u>Naga</u>	<u>Valencia</u>	
<u>Parañaque</u>	<u>Pampanga</u>		
<u>Pasig</u>	<u>Santa Rosa</u>		
<u>Taytay</u>			



Believe. Grow.
Disciple. Multiply.

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UPCOMING EVENTS



ALL D12 and DGroup Leaders are encouraged to attend this coming **January 27 & 28**, a 2-day **LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE** simultaneously LIVE from CCF ST. FRANCIS SQUARE. Conference will start 8 am and ends at 5 pm. Please file your leave in advance.

JZone High

Presents

JZone and Dad

A movie date with JZoners and their Dads. Moms are also invited to watch the movie entitled **"Courageous"** this February 4, 2 pm at CCF Center... Please invite non CCFers to attend this evangelistic event.

Weekly Activities		DGroup Malaybalay	DGroup Valencia, CMU & Alanib	JZone DGroup & Activities
16	Office Closed	<u>Small Group with Celsa</u> @ Ayala's residence 7 pm mixed group	<u>Dgroup Jzone CMU</u> @ CMU Campus 6 pm Leaders <u>Women's BS with Lingling</u> @ Valencia Central School 1 pm	JZone High (CCF) With Cassy & Carlos 5:00 – 6:30 pm
Mon				
17	Office Hours: 8:00am to 5:00 pm	<u>Dgroup with Donald & Marie</u> @ Antipasado's Residence 6:00 pm Mixed	<u>Dgroup with Mulong & Inday</u> @ Hagkol 6:30 pm Couples	Believing Class with Ate Ann JZone Center 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm
Tuesda				
18	Prayer Watch 5:30-6:30 pm	<u>Bible Study with Francis</u> @ Tinsay Farm 11:00 am Employees <u>Small Group with Necy</u> @ SS Room 6:30 pm <u>Small Groups JZone BSU</u> @ BSU Grounds 7 pm	<u>Small Group with Neil & Malou</u> @ MKAVI Alanib – 5 pm	Small Groups @ BSU Campus 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm
Wednesd				
19	Office Closed	<u>Men's Group with Neil</u> @ Abejuela Residence 7 am <u>Bible Study with Kraig</u> @ Roque Farm 4 pm Employees <u>Bible Study with Doc Su</u> @ BBH Compound 6 pm Mixed <u>DGroup with Norenz & Eileen</u> @ Gamo Residence 7 pm <u>DGroup with Titot & Necy</u> @ Fortich Residence 7 pm	<u>Bible Study with Mario/Tino</u> @ Valencia 6 pm <u>Dgroup with Rory & Dawn</u> @ 19 th Tee, Malingon 7:00 pm	Small Group BNHS with Charie JZone center 4:30-5:30 pm
Thursday				
20	Office Closed	<u>Women's Group with Elaine</u> @ Tinsay's Residence 2 pm <u>DGroup with Cocoi & Cynthia</u> @ BB Café 6:30 pm		Growing Class with Ate Iris JZone Center 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm
Friday				
21	GLC Level 2 3:00 pm		<u>DGroup with Mario & Lingling</u> @ Valencia 7 pm	<u>JZone Singles & Leaders Bible Study</u> @ Damasco's Residence 10:00 am – 12 nn
Saturday	GLC Level 3 1:00 pm		<u>JZone DGroup</u> @ CCF Alanib 2 pm	<u>JZone Band Practice</u> @ 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm
22	<u>NxtGen Sunday School</u> Sunday School Rooms 10:00 am – 11:30 am	<u>Visayan Worship</u> Sunday School Hall 8:00 am – 9:30 am <u>English Worship</u> Worship Hall 10:00 am – 11:30 am	<u>Visayan Worship</u> CCF Alanib 10:00 am – 11:30 am <u>English Worship</u> Valencia Worship Hall 10:00 am – 11:30 am	
Sunday				

to make Christ-committed followers who will make Christ-committed followers

