

The Art of Finishing Well

The Disadvantages of a Strong Start...

How the Mighty Fall, Jim Collins

- Stage 1: Hubris Born of Success
- Stage 2: Undisciplined Pursuit of More
- Stage 3: Denials of Risk and Peril
- Stage 4: Grasping for Salvation
- Stage 5: Capitulation to Irrelevance or Death

Insight from Saul & David

KEY LESSON: People don't finish well _____ !

Hindrances to a Strong Finish:

- _____
- Lack of _____
- _____
- Lack of _____
- _____
- Temptations of the _____

Habits Toward Finishing Well

- _____ : calling & mission
- _____ : a proactive posture
- _____ : life-long learning
- _____ : mentoring & coaching
- _____ :
- _____

“Greatness is earned. It is not a gift; it is a reward. It is not accidental; it is cultivated. It is not bestowed by others; it is self-determined. You do not need to hope it happens. You can plot a course to make it happen. ‘Am I a great leader?’ or ‘Do I want to be a great leader?’ are questions only you can answer.”

McNeal, *Practicing Greatness*:8

Almighty God, in this quiet hour I seek communion with thee.

from the fret and fever of the day's business,
from the world's discordant noises,
from the praise and blame of men,
from the confused thoughts and vain imaginations
of my own heart.

I would now turn aside and seek the quietness of thy presence.

All day long have I toiled and striven;

but now in the stillness of heart and the clear light
of thine eternity,

I would ponder the pattern my life is weaving.

– John Baillie

Three Shifts Needed for a Strong Finish

1. From _____ to _____.
2. From _____ to _____.
3. From _____ to Finishing Well.

Bibliography:

Peterson, *Leap Over a Wall*. David's life illuminated!
McNeal, *Practicing Greatness*. 7 Key disciplines.
Collins, *How the Mighty Fall*. Learning from failures.
MacDonald, *Ordering Your Private World*. The most foundational book I ever read... it started me out right.
Willard, *Hearing God*. Developing a conversational relationship with God.