

# 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. 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!  
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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.