

FINISH WELL: Set Your Heart on What Matters

There's a moment at the end of every school year when the fatigue quietly settles in. It shows up in the shorter patience, the heavier sighs, and the mental lists that never quite get finished. You may find yourself wondering if you have anything left to give—or if what you have given has really made a difference at all. In this final stretch, it can feel like the goal is simply to make it to the last day. However, God's invitation is not just to *get through*; it is to finish with purpose. The apostle Paul offers a perspective that gently reorients our hearts.

[Read Colossians 3:1-2.](#)

What does Paul instruct believers to set their hearts and minds on? What might it look like to live this out in your work (or home) setting right now?

When everything around us feels urgent, these verses remind us to lift our eyes. Our work matters, but it should not be our ultimate focus. We are called to live with an eternal perspective, even in the middle of lesson plans, faculty meetings, and end-of-year demands.

[Read Colossians 3:12-14.](#)

What characteristics are believers called to clothe themselves with? Which of these feels most challenging in this season?

Notice that these qualities are not dependent on our circumstances. We can choose compassion when we feel drained, patience when students are restless, and kindness when tensions are high. How is this possible? The answer is God chose us! In [verse 10](#) Paul reminded us that Christ is ALL that matters, and He lives in us! Living an obedient life isn't always easy, but it is possible when *we let the message about Christ, in all its richness, fill our lives* ([v. 16](#)). We must set our hearts on the cross. It truly is what matters most.

[Read Colossians 3:23-24.](#)

Who are you ultimately working for? How does this change your perspective on finishing the year?

You may not always feel seen or appreciated, but God sees every faithful act. When you work “as for the Lord,” your efforts carry eternal significance. Finishing well is not about having a perfect classroom, perfect students, or perfect outcomes. It is about keeping our hearts aligned with Christ, choosing His ways in the everyday moments, and remembering who we are truly serving. As this school year comes to an end, fix your heart on what matters most. Clothe yourself with His character. Work with purpose. Trust that your faithfulness—seen or unseen—is never wasted.

Lord, as we near the end of this school year, help us set our hearts and minds on You. When we feel weary, remind us of what truly matters. Teach us to walk in compassion, patience, and love, even in the busiest moments. Help us to do everything in Your name and for Your glory. Strengthen us to finish well—not for recognition but out of faithfulness to and love for You. In Jesus' name, Amen.

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