

# Focused Living

(1 Corinthians 15:58)

- Introduction:
1. The passage under consideration today is simply one-verse-long, but it is packed full of lessons for us to consider.
  2. As we travel through life, we hear many voices calling for our attention, beckoning for our devotion, and consequently, it's easy to lose our way.
  3. Paul concisely calls us to "stay the course," finish well, and closes by giving us hope.
  4. Let's consider his words together.

## I. Therefore

- A. One cannot study a verse that begins with the word, "Therefore," and not back up and examine the context.
- B. Some of the Corinthians were denying the resurrection (15:12).
- C. Paul made short work of that heresy and assured them there is life after death.

## II. Be Steadfast & Unmovable

- A. As we experience life, we will find that there are times when various influences will push and pull us away from our commitment to the Lord.
- B. Demas (Colossians 4:14; Philemon 24; 2 Timothy 4:10).
- C. It's so sad to see people who were once faithful, give up before the finish line.
- D. (Job 1:

## III. Always Abounding

- A. We are debtors to God's grace (Romans 5:8; John 1:16).
- B. Don't deceive yourself: A "do-just-enough" mentality won't get the job done (Matthew 22:36-39).
- C. Is your Christian walk characterized by "spurts" or by consistent faithfulness?

## IV. The Work of the Lord

- A. The "work of the Lord" certainly includes the organized work of the church, but it involves so much more!
- B. (1 Corinthians 10:31).

## V. Your Labor is not in Vain

- A. We might see everything we have ever worked for in this life destroyed through neglect or opposition.
- B. But God knows what you've done and will reward you accordingly (Hebrews 6:10).

- Conclusion:
1. I want to encourage you to double down on your commitment to Jesus.
  2. Life is too short to get discouraged, side-tracked, called away from an abundant life of service to Jesus.
  3. In the end, we'll either be thankful we served the Lord abundantly, or we'll wish we had.