

PROTIPS-March 19, 2008
Finishing Well: An Example from the Lord Jesus

Buwan ng Marso, marami ang nagtapos na at marami ang ga-graduate pa. Ano nga ba ang susi sa matagumpay na pagtatapos. This Holy Week, we take time to reflect on how Jesus finished his mission well. In John 19:30 we read, "When he had received the drink, Jesus said, 'It is FINISHED.' With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit." Of course we know that the story didn't end there. After three days, Jesus resurrected, showing his power over sin and death.

How did Jesus finish well? Let me share with you 3 observations:

1) Jesus didn't give in to the lure of shortcuts. (Luke 4:1-13)

He was tempted to take the easy way out. Satan offered him food, power and riches. But to all these, Jesus' answer was NO! He knew that those who take short-cuts lose big in the end. He knew that finishing well requires hard-work, carrying your cross and discipline.

2) Jesus chose his team members and trained them well. (Mark 3:13-19)

Jesus had Andrew, Peter, Philip, James, John, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James the son of Alphaeus, Thaddaeus, Simon the Zealot and Judas Iscariot. Jesus trained these twelve men 24/7 for 3 years. If Jesus, who is God, formed a team to accomplish his mission, why in the world would we think that we can go solo? If you have a mission bigger than yourself, then you definitely need others to do it with you.

3) Jesus was focused on his mission.

He spoke about his mission to his disciples. Early on in his ministry he told his disciples, "*My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work.*" (John 4:34). Hours before he faced the cross, Jesus was struggling within himself, but through prayer he stayed focus on his mission, "*Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done.*" (Luke 22:42)

Do you want to finish well in life? Follow the example of Jesus: Don't give in to the lure of short-cuts; Choose and train your team well; and Stay focused on your mission.

Be a blessing in the workplace today!