

**Westlock Gospel Chapel    June 28, 2020**

Ecclesiastes 4:12 “a cord of three strands is not quickly \_\_\_\_\_”  
When God is braided into our life, and hard times come, we can  
get through them much more easily, relying on \_\_\_\_\_.

Olympic torch-bearers, passing the baton  
“Can you \_\_\_\_\_, where I’ve left off?”

Someone’s last words show us what is \_\_\_\_\_ to them, what they  
want **us** to carry on.

➤ Jesus’ last words – John 17:20-23

“that they may be brought to complete \_\_\_\_\_...that the world may know”

➤ Paul’s last words – 2 Timothy 4:6-9

“I have \_\_\_\_\_” – as Ecclesiastes 12:13 last week – “Fear God  
and keep his commandments”

But then he concluded with what mattered to him – \_\_\_\_\_

Sometimes we have to “\_\_\_\_\_”

(Saddleback Church’s “Angel Stadium Declaration”, April 17, 2005  
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*answer key:*

*broken, his strength, carry on, important,  
unity, kept the faith, people, vow a vow*

Today I am stepping across the line. I’m tired of waffling, and I’m  
finished with wavering. I’ve made my choice; the verdict is in; my decision is  
irrevocable. I’m going God’s way. There’s no turning back now!

I will live the rest of my life serving God’s purposes on God’s planet  
for God’s glory. I will use my life to celebrate his presence, cultivate his  
character, participate in his family, demonstrate his love, and communicate  
his Word.

Since my past has been forgiven and I have a purpose for living and  
a home awaiting in heaven, I refuse to waste any more time or energy on  
shallow living, petty thinking, trivial talking, thoughtless doing, useless  
regretting, hurtful resenting, or faithless worrying. Instead, I will magnify  
God, grow to maturity, serve in ministry, and fulfill my mission in the  
membership of his family.

Because this life is preparation for the next, I will value worship over  
wealth, “we” over “me”, character over comfort, service over status, and  
people over possessions, position, and pleasures. I know what matters  
most, and I’ll give it all I’ve got. I’ll do the best I can with what I have, for  
Jesus Christ today.

I won’t be captivated by culture, manipulated by critics, motivated  
by praise, frustrated by problems, debilitated by temptation, or intimidated  
by the devil. I’ll keep running my race with my eyes on the goal, not the  
sidelines or those running with me. When times get tough, and I get tired, I  
won’t back up, back off, back down, back out or backslide. I’ll just keep  
moving forward by God’s grace. I’m Spirit-led, purpose-driven and mission-  
focused, so I cannot be bought, I will not be compromised, and I shall not  
quit until I finish the race.

I’m a trophy of God’s amazing grace, so I will be gracious to  
everyone, grateful for every day, and generous with everything that God  
entrusts to me.

To my Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ I say: However, whenever,  
wherever, and whatever you ask me to do, my answer in advance is yes!  
Wherever you lead and whatever the cost, I’m ready. Anytime. Anywhere.  
Anyway. Whatever it takes, Lord, whatever it takes. I want to be used by  
you in such a way that on that final day I’ll hear you say, “Well done, good  
and faithful one. Come in, and let the party begin.”