

BASIC MESSAGE

December 1, 2008

"And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold." Mt 24:12 NKJV
"But he who endures to the end shall be saved." Mt 24:13 NKJV

DON'T PUNK OUT/DON'T QUIT

My son has a website called dontpunkout.com. The phrase don't punk out is used by athletes in sports like mountain biking, surfing, mountain climbing etc.; to encourage each other to finish and not quit no matter what happens.

When Jesus came to earth 2,000 years ago He warned us that just before He returned it would seem like evil was winning. As we observe the events in the daily news, we can see the results of people making choices based on their own selfish desire rather than God's standard. It is easy in these times to feel like giving up. Jesus said in Mark 13:13, "And you will be hated by all for My name's sake. But he who endures to the end shall be saved." As darkness and evil seem to take control of the world, it will become more and more unpopular to stand for Jesus. Those who don't truly love Him, but who say they believe in Jesus, just so they can escape hell and go to heaven, will feel like quitting and many will.

God doesn't want this to happen. He has given us the things we need to endure, and finish life successfully by fulfilling His purpose for us. Those who are involved in sports, train and prepare themselves so they won't punk out. We as believers need to do the same so we won't quit in our walk with God no matter what happens. There are several things that will help us prepare to finish life's race as a winner in these troubled times.

1. FALL IN LOVE WITH JESUS. Love Him and desire to do His will with all your heart. Love Him more than any person, your plans, or your possessions. Praise Him and trust in His love for you no matter what's happening. He truly desires to give you victory over all things.

2. SPEND TIME WITH JESUS DAILY. Maintain your relationship with Him by spending time with Him each day reading His word, and talking with Him through prayer. Keep an attitude of prayer by constantly being aware of His presence, and reaching out to him in prayer during life's daily situations.

3. WALK IN THE SPIRIT. Learn to hear God's voice speaking to your heart and obey what He tells you. How can you know God's voice? His voice will not contradict His word. It will not lead you to fulfill the lust of the flesh. His voice will warn you, but not cause you to fear the things going on around you. It will provide answers to the situations you face in life. Most of all God's voice will lead you to victory by fulfilling His purpose for your life.

4. SPEAK THE TRUTH IN LOVE. As you have opportunity, speak about Jesus to others. Lovingly, but uncompromisingly speak to others about your faith, and how God has a blessed plan for their life.

BASIC QUESTION: God gave the greatest gift, Jesus. The greatest gift you can give Him is your life. Are you doing the things you need to do so you won't quit in your walk with The Lord?

*If you would like to know more about living for Jesus
please contact us.*

Henry & Ann Pulsifer

Box 431
Kiln, MS 39556
USA

Phone (228) 255-9251 / Fax (228) 255-8927
Email basic@basicministries.com / Web site www.basicministries.com

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Scatter the seed of God's word by sharing this message with others. Luke 8:5-15
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