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**FINISHING WELL,
STARTING STRONG**

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2026

FINISHING WELL,
STARTING STRONG

It's a funny time of the year



TRANSFORMATION
COMMUNITY CHURCH

WE FINISH WELL WHEN WE BEGIN WITH GRATITUDE

2026

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- **Psalm 107:1** *“Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever.”*
- **Psalm 65:11** *“God crowned the year with goodness. Even the hard pathways overflow with abundance.”*
- **Colossians 3:15–17** *“Be thankful... sing with gratitude... do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks.”*



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FINISHING WELL,
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PRAAYER DECLARATION:

*“Lord, thank You for bringing
me through.”*



WE FINISH WELL WHEN WE HAVE HONEST REFLECTION

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Philippians 3:13 —

Forgetting what lies behind ≠ ignoring it; or
pretending about it.

It means **honestly evaluating and releasing it.**



HOW CAN WE LEARN TO DO THAT?

PRAYER OF EXAMEN: A daily practice of reflecting with God on the moments of your day, noticing where you felt gratitude, closeness to God, or inner resistance.

It helps you recognize God's presence, learn from your choices, and respond more intentionally tomorrow.

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PRAYER OF EXAMEN:

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1. Be still

Take a deep breath.
Remember: God is with you.

2. Say thank you

Think of one good thing from today.
Thank God for it.

3. Look at your day

Slowly remember your day from start to finish.
Notice when you felt happy, sad, calm, or upset.

4. Notice where God was

Ask: Where did I feel close to God?
Where did I feel far from God?

5. Ask for help

Say sorry for what went wrong.
Ask God to help you tomorrow.



If we want to look at it a slightly different way:

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- **Ask reflective questions of your year:**

- 1. What did I learn?*
- 2. What did I overcome?*
- 3. What must I stop carrying?*



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PRAYER DECLARATION:

*“Lord, thank You for being
there with me.”*



WE FINISH WELL WHEN WE CLOSE THE DOOR ON THE WRONG THINGS

- **Eph 4:31-32**
- **Romans 13:14**
- **Heb 12:1-3**

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*You cannot
grow and cling
to the past at
the same time.*

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A Final Encouragement for the new year — THREE STRONG STARTS

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1. Start With God first (not last)

KIDS & YOUTH ENCOURAGEMENT

Josiah as king, 8 year old

Sought God heart and soul, changed a nation, got rid of everything that polluted himself and people worshipping God

- 2 Kings 22:1-2, 18-20
- 2 Kings 23:25

“turned to the Lord with all his heart, soul & strength”



1. Start With God first (not last)

2. Start With Intentional Growth

Ask: What one thing can I start doing daily that will change my life?

3. Start With Community

Growth happens in healthy relationships; don't walk alone.

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Finishing this last Sunday
of 2025 means ending well
in worship

Worship is surrender +
gratitude + expectation.



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SONG & COMMUNION

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*Light of the world you stepped
down into darkness...
So here I am to worship*

