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# NEVER BREAK STRIDE

Dr. Mike Wells

2 Timothy 2:1-5, “*Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus*. 2*And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also*. 3*Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ*. 4*No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier*. 5*And if a man also strive for masteries, yet is he not crowned, except he strive lawfully*.”

I Corinthians 15:58, “*Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.*”

No matter what happens, just never break stride.

No matter what attacks come your way, never break stride.

No matter what personally happens to you, never break stride.

No matter what happens in the nation, never bread stride.

No matter what happens to your friends, never break stride.

No matter what happens financially, never break stride.

No matter what happens to you physically, never break stride.

No matter what happens in your church, never break stride.

No matter what happens to your heroes, never break stride.

1. Decide early in your ministry what the Bible teaches about different areas in life.
2. Write down those truths.
3. Listen to sermons by older pastors and refine your thoughts about what the Bible teaches.
4. Decide your practical convictions about life early in your life.
5. Write those convictions down.
6. Never let your weakness of a lack of compassion as a youth hurt your strengths of convictions as you get older.
7. Accept the realities of youth and their aggressiveness in the area of convictions.
8. Move your convictions (move slowly to the right).
9. Move your compassions (move slowly to the left).
10. Be careful about condemning older Christians and their compassion.
11. Be careful about condemning younger Christians and their convictions.
12. The older you become, the more tender you will become. The younger you are, the harder you are on the lack of convictions of others.
13. Realize that people are only responding to what they have been taught. These are good people with less information than you have been given. Caution!
14. The well-rounded Christian is the well-informed Christian. Stay informed.
15. Be teachable by the right teachers.
16. Older preachers have what you do not have.
17. Choose those older preachers by how they line up with where you believe the Bible teaches you will be someday.
18. Let obstacles become stepping-stones in your life.
19. Turn obstacles into opportunities.
20. Never quit by never entertaining quitting.
21. Refuse to run with those who are unstable in their personal convictions and doctrinal positions.
22. Do not stop reaching the poor because of peer pressure.
23. Do not stop reaching the middle and upper class because of peer pressure.
24. Balance your outreach.
25. Never forsake missions.
26. Never forsake financial integrity.
27. Never forsake a pastor-led church.
28. Never forsake an organized Sunday School.
29. Never build for the Sunday morning attendance.
30. Always give your people fresh bread.
31. Always meet the needs of your people.