

# How to Finish Christ's Work

*John MacArthur*

## I. Introduction.

- A. Text: Acts 1:1-11.
- B. Many Christians do not understand what they are doing.
- C. We are called to finish the work of Jesus Christ.
- D. Jesus only began to do and teach. The rest of the book of Acts speaks of finishing the work Jesus began. (Acts 20:22)
- E. We have a limited amount of time and therefore must maximize it. (1 Peter 1, Job 14:14, Psalm 89:4, Ephesians 5:16)
- F. There are things we need in order to finish the work of Christ.

## II. The proper message.

- A. The message has been revealed by God. (1 Corinthians 2:9, 13)
- B. One of the great tragedies of the church is ignorance. (Acts 17:1)
- C. The message is Jesus Christ died and risen again.
- D. There is a danger of evangelism that is experience centered.
- E. True testimonies involve proper content.

## III. The proper manifestation. This is a vital relationship with Christ. (John 20, 1 Corinthians 15, 1 Peter 1:8)

## IV. The proper life.

- A. This relates to power.
- B. We cannot do the work on our own strength.
- C. Jesus said to wait for the promise of the Father--the Holy Spirit. (Luke 11:13, John 14:16, 1 Corinthians 12:13, Romans 8:9)

## V. The proper mystery. (Ezekiel 36)

- A. We do not need to know when Jesus is coming.
- B. We need to be busy watching. (Mark 13:32)

## VI. The proper mission.

A. We are to be witnesses throughout the earth.

B. The power of a witness is walking in the Spirit.

VII. The proper motivation. Jesus is coming back. (2 Corinthians 5:9)

VIII. Conclusion. (2 Timothy 4:6, Colossians 4:17)

**Application Questions:**

1. Why are testimonies in themselves insufficient for accomplishing the work of Christ?

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2. When have you experienced or seen a spirit-empowered ministry? What did you learn from this experience?

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3. What are you doing to witness more in your workplace or school environment? What can you do?

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