

APRIL 30

## “THERE ARE NO SHORTCUTS TO CHRISTIAN MATURITY.”

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### **READ**

*Exodus 23:29-30, Acts 20:24*

We have been programmed to expect a miracle, but we don't know what each day will hold. Paul said, "I don't know what to expect tomorrow. They may beat me up and put me in jail, but I have made up my mind to finish my race with joy." God has started a work in you and He will finish it. God does not rush in the development of His children, but we crave rapid progress. When God wants to make an oak tree, He takes 18 years. When He wants to make a mushroom, He takes 18 hours. Just as jumping will not make you any taller, there are no shortcuts to Christian maturity. Walking with Jesus is a lifetime walk of faith. Keep your feet on the ground and trust God's Word. As God increases in you, you will outlive and outlast the storms of life; the enemy cannot hold you back. The only instantaneous thing in the Christian life is salvation. As you mature, gradually you learn to overcome adversities with the Spirit's help as you read His Word and seek out His will in prayer.

### **PRAY**

Lord, I know that what You started in me, You will finish. I trust You, Jesus. Help me to slow down, to be patient, as I grow in the grace and knowledge of You. You make all things beautiful in Your time.

*From April 30, 2006*