PULPIT COMPANION

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

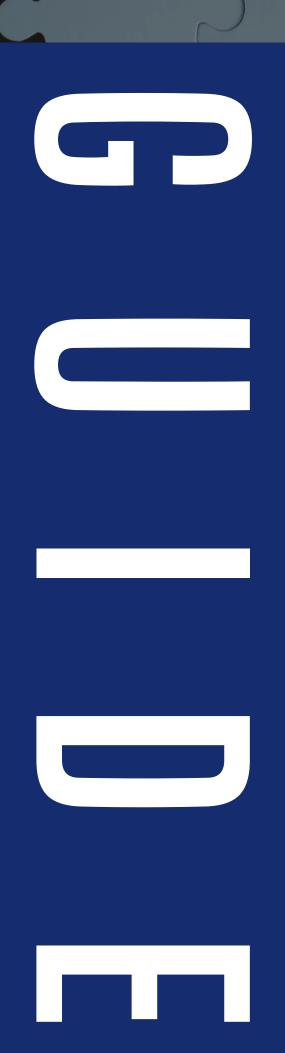
NUMBERS 33:50-56.

MINISTER RONNIE PHIFER



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1811 S.7TH STREET, SAN JOSE, CA WWW.MARANATHACC.COM





Are we allowing unfinished business to hinder our spiritual growth?

This powerful message challenges us to confront the areas of our lives where we've fallen short of God's calling. Drawing from Numbers 33:50-56, we're reminded of God's instructions to the Israelites as they prepared to enter the Promised Land. Just as they were commanded to drive out the inhabitants and their idols, we too must rid ourselves of distractions and obstacles that keep us from fulfilling God's purpose.

The sermon beautifully parallels our modern struggles with the Israelites' journey, urging us to be intentional about making time for God, shutting out the noise of the world, and focusing on His voice. We're encouraged to trust in God's timing, even when we feel delayed or uncertain, and to keep stepping forward in faith. This message reminds us that our life experiences are shaping our testimonies and preparing us for greater things.

Let's reflect on what God has asked of us and commit to completing our unfinished business, aligning ourselves with His will and allowing Him to perfect the good work He has begun in us.

SCRIPTURES FROM PULPIT AI

- Numbers 33:50-56 (main text)
- Exodus 20:3
- Proverbs 17:17
- Amos 3:3
- Proverbs 16:9
- Acts 9:15
- Judges 2:11-13
- Philippians 1:6





DEVOTIONAL

Day 1: Unfinished Business Reading: Philippians 1:3-11

Devotional: Just as the sermon speaks of "unfinished business," Paul's letter to the Philippians reminds us that God is not finished with us yet. He who began a good work in us will carry it on to completion (Phil 1:6). Today, reflect on the areas of your life where you feel incomplete or unfulfilled.

Remember that God is still writing your story. What "unfinished business" might He be calling you to address? Ask for His guidance and strength to continue growing in love, knowledge, and depth of insight.

Day 2: Overcoming Distractions

Reading: Luke 10:38-42

Devotional: The sermon highlights the importance of avoiding distractions to focus on God's voice. In today's reading, we see Martha distracted by many tasks while Mary chooses to sit at Jesus' feet. In our busy lives, it's easy to become overwhelmed by responsibilities and lose sight of what truly matters.

Today, practice intentional listening. Set aside time to quiet your mind and hear God's voice. What might He be saying to you amidst the noise of daily life? How can you make space for His presence in your routine?

Day 3: Divine Timing

Reading: Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

Devotional: The sermon reminds us that God's timing often differs from our own. Ecclesiastes teaches that there is a season for everything under heaven. When we feel delayed or impatient, it's crucial to trust in God's perfect timing.

Reflect on moments in your life when things didn't happen according to your schedule. How did God work in those situations? Are there areas now where you're struggling to wait on His timing? Pray for patience and the wisdom to see how He might be preparing you through seeming delays.





Day 4: Starting the Journey Reading: Genesis 12:1-9

Devotional: The sermon mentions how God often gives us a destination without a clear plan, just as He did with Abraham. Like Abraham, we're called to step out in faith, even when the path isn't fully visible. What journey might God be calling you to begin? It could be a new ministry, a change in career, or simply a new spiritual discipline. What's holding you back from taking that first step?

Remember, God doesn't always reveal the entire plan, but He promises to be with us every step of the way.

Day 5: Realignment with God Reading: Psalm 139:23-24

Devotional: The sermon emphasizes the importance of staying aligned with God's will. Today's Psalm invites God to search our hearts and lead us in the way everlasting. Take time for honest self-examination. Are there areas in your life that have drifted out of alignment with God's purposes? Perhaps there's unfinished business you've been avoiding or distractions pulling you away from His calling. Pray for God to reveal any hidden faults and to guide you back to His path.

Remember, realignment is an ongoing process, requiring regular check-ins with our loving Father.





SMALL GROUP GUIDE: "Unfinished Business"

Opening Prayer:

Begin with a prayer, asking God to guide your discussion and help apply the sermon's teachings to your lives.

Key Scripture:

Discussion Questions:

- 1. The sermon mentions Eric Adams' story. How does his response to adversity inspire you to address "unfinished business" in your own life?
- 2. What are some areas in your life where you feel you have "unfinished business" with God? Why do you think these areas remain unfinished?
- 3. The sermon discusses God's instructions to the Israelites about driving out the Canaanites. How can we apply this concept of "driving out" negative influences in our modern lives?
- 4. How have distractions impacted your ability to complete what God has called you to do? What strategies can you use to minimize these distractions?
- 5. The sermon mentions that delays don't always mean denial from God. Share an experience where a delay in your life turned out to be beneficial or preparatory.
- 6. How does the idea that "we're part of a kingdom" change your perspective on your personal calling or unfinished business?
- 7. The sermon states, "We like to think that we're waiting on God to move in our lives when he's actually waiting for us to do what he's already told us to do." How does this resonate with you?





Practical Applications:

- 1. Identify one area of "unfinished business" in your life. Create an action plan with specific steps to address it this week.
- 2. Set aside dedicated time each day this week to listen to God without distractions. Journal any insights or instructions you receive.
- 3. Reflect on past experiences that seemed negative at the time but prepared you for future challenges or opportunities. Share these with a friend as a testimony.
- 4. Evaluate your friendships based on the characteristics mentioned in the sermon (trustworthy, supportive, honest, empathetic, loyal, non-judgmental). Consider how you can be this type of friend to others.
- 5. Practice aligning yourself with God's will by starting each day with a prayer of surrender and asking for His guidance in your "next steps."

Key Takeaways:

- 1. God has more chapters to write in our life stories.
- 2. Unfinished business can impact not just our lives, but others' as well.
- 3. Obedience to God's instructions is crucial, even when challenging.
- 4. Distractions, delays, and discouragement don't mean denial from God.
- 5. We're often right where we're supposed to be in God's timing.

Closing Prayer:

Close the session by praying for each other's "unfinished business" and for the strength and wisdom to follow through on God's instructions.

