

**Finish Strong: "Dangerous Odds"**

Numbers 12-13; Hebrews 12:1-2

Senior Pastor David Whitten

September 7, 2014

*"Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders us and the sin that so easily entangles us, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith..."*  
Hebrews 12:1-2a

According to Hebrews 12:1-2, there are two keys to finishing our race strong: Perseverance and focus!

**Key Truth:**

We don't have to be an ***oddball*** to beat the odds.

We just have to stay ***focused*** on Jesus!

**Today's  
Worship  
Songs:**

Open Up The Heavens -  
Vertical Church Band

How Great Thou Art -  
Paul Baloche

Christ is Enough –  
Hillsong Live

Who You Are –  
Passion / Kristian Stanfill



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**THE RACE**

Defeat! He lay there silently, a tear dropped from his eye.  
"There's no sense running anymore --- three strikes, I'm out --- why try?"  
The will to rise had disappeared, all hope had fled away.  
So far behind, so error-prone, closer all the way.  
"I've lost, so what's the use?", he thought. "I'll live with my disgrace."  
But then he thought about his dad who soon he'd have to face.  
"Get up," an echo sounded low. "Get up and take your place."  
You were not meant for failure here; get up and win the race."  
With borrowed will, "Get up", it said, "You haven't lost at all,  
For winning is not more than this --- to rise each time you fall."

So up he rose to win once more, and with a new commit,  
He resolved that, win or lose, at least he wouldn't quit.  
So far behind the others now, the most he'd ever been...  
Still he gave it all he had and ran as through to win.  
Three times he'd fallen stumbling, three times he rose again,  
Too far behind to hope to win, he still ran to the end.

They cheered the winning runner as he crossed, first place,  
Head high and proud and happy; no falling, no disgrace;  
But when the fallen youngster crossed the line, last place,  
The crowd gave him the greater cheer for finishing the race.  
And even though he came in last, with head bowed low, unproud,  
You would have thought he won the race, to listen to the crowd.  
And to his dad he sadly said, "I didn't do so well."  
"To me, you won," his father said, "You rose each time you fell."

And now when things seem dark and hard and difficult to face,  
The memory of that little boy helps me in my race.  
For all of life is like that race, with ups and downs and all,  
And all you have to do to win: is rise each time you fall.  
"Quit! Give up! You're beaten!" they still shout in my face.  
But another voice within me says, "Get up and win that race."

- author unknown

**My Next Steps:**

- I will be back next week for Part 2 of the "Finish Strong" series.
- This week I will read Numbers 12-13 and the story of the 12 spies.
- This week I will memorize Hebrews 12:1-2a, "Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders us and the sin that so easily entangles us, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith..."
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**From our Senior Pastor...**

Welcome to FishHawk Fellowship!

Today is an exciting day as we launch a new series of messages entitled, "Finish Strong". For the next ten weeks, we are going to challenge and encourage men to "Finish Strong" in their life, family, and relationship with Christ. It promises to be a great study!

If you are a first-time guest, please take a few moments to fill out the Connection Card that's inside of this Worship Guide. Use this card to indicate your next steps, request information about our church, or make us aware of how we can pray for you.

Once completed, just put the card in the offering plate later in the service and we will follow up accordingly.

Thank you for joining us today! It's great having you at FFC as we celebrate Christ and encourage each another.

Remember, you are loved -

*David Whitten*

Senior Pastor



The Whittens: Melissa, Madison, McKinley, Pastor David, & Morgan

**We all Need Prayer...**

If you would like our Prayer Team to pray for you, email our Prayer Line with your requests:

[ffcpayers@fishhawkfellowship.org](mailto:ffcpayers@fishhawkfellowship.org)

To serve on the Prayer Team, send an email to the same address and we will contact you with more information.

SAVE THE DATE...

**Missions Banquet: Saturday, October 25**

Watch for more details to come for our Global Missions Celebration, October 19-26!



**Ladies' Fall Kick-off: Finger Foods, Fellowship, and Fun... Saturday, September 13, at 7:00PM in the Fellowship Center**

Tickets are available **today** in the lobbies of both buildings and at the church office weekdays for this Saturday's Fall Kick-off Social. (\$1 admission benefits the *Blessed Bottoms Diaper Bank*.)  
Optional: If you like to cook or bake, bring your favorite finger food to share!

Want to know more? Contact our R.E.A.L. Women's Ministry Leader, Kadie Duncan: [women@fishhawkfc.org](mailto:women@fishhawkfc.org)



**Are You a Mom of an Infant? Toddler? Kindergartener? Need Some Help and Encouragement?**

**MOPS meets on the 1st & 3rd Tuesdays monthly from 9:30-11:30AM**

We meet here at FFC in the Fellowship Center through the school year. Childcare is provided by RSVP: email [childcare@fishhawkfc.org](mailto:childcare@fishhawkfc.org). We enjoy snacks, crafts, special speakers, and practical tools that are relevant to our lives. Questions? Email [ffcmops@gmail.com](mailto:ffcmops@gmail.com) or call the church office: 655-7431.

Remember - we offer a Life Group for MOPS moms that meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, so sign up for that as well and keep connected with other MOPS moms and with the Lord! Go to [fishhawkfc.org](http://fishhawkfc.org) and click on the Life Groups banner; scroll down to the study "LC201" and click to register. Space is limited.

**Statistics from Sunday, August 31, 2014:**



**GENERAL BUDGET GIVING:**

2014 YTD Budget	\$ 1,406,685
2014 YTD Offering	\$ 1,376,864
Weekly Offering 08/31/2014	\$ 34,907
Life Unlimited Pledges (Nov. '13- Oct. '14)	\$ 387,371
Life Unlimited received this week	\$ 5,305
Life Unlimited received to-date	\$ 307,643

**ATTENDANCE:**

8:00 a.m.	239
9:30 a.m.	793
11:15 a.m.	<u>608</u>

TOTAL: 1,640

- Senior Pastor David Whitten [dwhitten@fishhawkfc.org](mailto:dwhitten@fishhawkfc.org)
- Children & Family Pastor Tony Parker [tparker@fishhawkfc.org](mailto:tparker@fishhawkfc.org)
- Discipleship Pastor Bob Magruder [bmagruder@fishhawkfc.org](mailto:bmagruder@fishhawkfc.org)
- Worship Pastor Mathew Leach [mleach@fishhawkfc.org](mailto:mleach@fishhawkfc.org)
- Youth Pastor Daniel Duncan [dduncan@fishhawkfc.org](mailto:dduncan@fishhawkfc.org)
- Children's Director Mary McCullagh [mmccullagh@fishhawkfc.org](mailto:mmccullagh@fishhawkfc.org)
- Missions Admin. Director Pinky Mejia [pmejia@fishhawkfc.org](mailto:pmejia@fishhawkfc.org)
- PreSchool & Special Needs Dir. Brooke Childs [bchilds@fishhawkfc.org](mailto:bchilds@fishhawkfc.org)



Welcome



Come - Grow - Serve - Go

September 7, 2014

Senior Pastor David Whitten

**Finish Strong: "Dangerous Odds"**

FISHHAWK FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

# WELCOME TO FISHHAWK FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

## OUR MISSION:

*Building Bridges That Connect People to a Passionate Life in Christ*



### BACK EXIT IS NOW OPEN

Help with traffic control in our parking lots on Sunday mornings! We can now use the back exit when leaving after worship, even though it's unfinished, to utilize the traffic light at Osprey Ridge Drive and FishHawk Blvd. **Please drive slowly and use for exiting purposes only.**



### "FishHawk 101" - TODAY, September 7th, 4:00-6:30PM

Interested in becoming a member of FishHawk Fellowship?  
Join us at "FishHawk 101," our New Members' Class!

This informative class is led by Pastor David in the Fellowship Center in Building B. It is a requirement for membership at FFC, but you can attend just to find out more about us... our beliefs, history, mission, and how you can connect with the Lord and your church family here. There is no obligation, so please come and find out more!



### Fall Life Groups Begin THIS Week!

Have you signed up for your Life Group yet?

Weekly small group Bible studies are available on and off campus at various locations. Check out our website... and pick up your catalogue here today!

All Ladies' Tuesday morning Life Groups Kick-off: 9:30AM in the Fellowship Center



### Our Men's Ministry is Launching a New Tuesday Night Men's Life Group starting October 14<sup>th</sup>!

Join us as we start together in Room B-200 (Building B, 2nd floor) and then break into smaller groups... you won't want to miss it! Sign up on our website: Click on the Life Groups banner, scroll down to Men's Groups and the section for **From Authentic Manhood: 33 The Series.**

There are multiple groups available with various leaders... and there's a group for you! Want to know more? Contact Pastor Tony Parker: [tparker@fishhawkfc.org](mailto:tparker@fishhawkfc.org)



### Friday Night Worship: THIS Friday, September 12th

Make plans to join us in the Worship Center at 7:00PM as we celebrate Shabbat. Childcare is offered; to reserve your spaces, please email [childcare@fishhawkfc.org](mailto:childcare@fishhawkfc.org) by the Tuesday prior. Questions? Contact Pinky Mejia: [pmejia@fishhawkfc.org](mailto:pmejia@fishhawkfc.org)



### Awana Starts THIS Wednesday @ 6:30PM

in the Fellowship Center in Building B

**Clubbers and Volunteers, register online NOW at [www.fishhawkfc.org](http://www.fishhawkfc.org)!**

We've had many signups already... but if you haven't registered yet, save time and avoid waiting in line by signing up on our website. Awana will meet Wednesdays from **6:30-8:00PM** in this fast paced, Bible-based club for 4-year olds to 5th graders (childcare available for children of Volunteers only).

**Kids, be part of the Friends, Food, and Fun!**

**Volunteers, it's not too late for you to sign up to serve in Awana!**

Questions about Awana? Contact Matthew Skywalker at [awana@fishhawkfc.org](mailto:awana@fishhawkfc.org).

### A 4-Week Class Just for Kids:

#### "God, Should I Be Baptized?"

Does your child want to understand & personalize their own faith? This class for 3rd-5th graders, will be held at 9:30 AM in B-200 on **Sundays, Sept. 28 - Oct. 19.** Contact Pastor Tony Parker or Mary McCullagh, Children's Director, to enroll: [MMcCullagh@fishhawkfc.org](mailto:MMcCullagh@fishhawkfc.org), or come to the Children's Welcome Desk (2nd floor, Building B) to sign up.



- Building B, 2nd floor -

Pastor Daniel Duncan

[dduncan@fishhawkfc.org](mailto:dduncan@fishhawkfc.org)

### Middle School & High School Students

"TREK" - Sundays at 9:30AM for Middle Schoolers

Life Groups - Sundays at 11:15AM for all youth

"Encounter" - Wednesdays at 7:00PM in B-200

Our Wednesday Night message series is "CommUnity" and we are studying the book of Philipians.

Visit the Youth page at [www.fishhawkfc.org](http://www.fishhawkfc.org) for more info and events, and join us on Facebook: FishHawk Fellowship Church Student Ministry



### College-age / Young Adults Ministry

Interested in finding out more about The Rock? Join us for **The Rock: Recap!**

We are exploring the building blocks that make up Ministry.

This is the perfect time to come and see all that we're about! Join us **Sunday nights at 7:30 in Room B-200...** See you there! Questions? Contact Pastor Daniel Duncan: 655-7431 or [dduncan@fishhawkfc.org](mailto:dduncan@fishhawkfc.org).



### Online Giving: An Easy, Secure Way to Give

Just go to our website at [fishhawkfc.org](http://fishhawkfc.org) and click on the "Give" link. You can set up recurring or one-time gifts from your bank account or debit card. You can also view your contribution history online. Set it up online and know that your tithe is secure.

Questions? Need more info? Email Barbara Nixon: [bnixon@fishhawkfc.org](mailto:bnixon@fishhawkfc.org) or call 655-7431.

### THIS WEEK @ FFC:

#### Sunday, September 7:

8:00, 9:30, 11:15 a.m.:

Worship in the Worship Center (Bldg A)

Extended Care for babies-preschoolers in Bldgs A & B; register at the Preschool Check-in Desk (Bldg A) or the Kiosk in the first floor hall, Bldg B.

Children's Ministry for K5-5th Grade (Bldg B, upstairs)

9:30 a.m. "Trek" for Grades 6-8 (B-209)

9:30 & 11:15 a.m. Overflow Worship (Fellowship Center)

11:15 a.m. Life Groups for Grades 6-12 (Bldg B, 2nd fl)

4:00 p.m. "FishHawk 101" (Fellowship Center)

7:30 p.m. "The Rock" College-Age Ministry (B-200)

#### Tuesday, September 9:

9:30 a.m. Women's & MOPS Life Groups Kick-off (Fellowship Center)

7:00 p.m. Pastoral Council (B-216)

#### Wednesday, September 10:

5:30 p.m. Children's Choir (B217)

6:30 p.m. Awana Clubs for Kids

6:30 p.m. Worship Team & Band Rehearsal (B-210)

7:00 p.m. Youth "Encounter" (B-200)

#### Friday, September 12:

7:00 p.m. Friday Night Worship & Study (Worship Center)

#### Saturday, September 13:

7:30 a.m. Deacons' Meeting (B-216)

7:00 p.m. Women's Social: "Getting Real Around the Kitchen Table" (Fellowship Center)

### "Overflow" Worship in the Fellowship Center

Members and regular attenders, thank you for helping to make room in our Worship Center by worshipping in "Overflow" in the Fellowship Center (Bldg B) at 9:30 or 11:15AM. Check for your Sunday in "Overflow" (based on first letter of last name):

**Today: Last names A-D**

**MONTHLY OVERFLOW SCHEDULE:**

1st Sunday: A-D                      2nd Sunday: E-L

3rd Sunday: M-R                    4th Sunday: S-Z

5th Sunday: FFC Staff & Leadership



### Follow today's sermon with the YouVersion Bible app on your phone or other device...

Install this Bible app and log in to view today's scripture and sermon notes! Tap on "LIVE" and search "FishHawk"... you can read the Bible, take notes and email them, give online, view the worship guide, and submit prayer requests.

doing life together  
**LIFEgroups**



Fall LIFEgroups  
begin TODAY! It's not  
too late to sign-up!

*Life Groups exist to provide a safe, loving,  
nurturing environment where participants  
experience authentic community and spiritual  
growth.*

More information and LIFEgroup  
Catalogs are available in the Worship  
Center Lobby or online at:  
**[www.fishhawkfc.org](http://www.fishhawkfc.org)**.

**Sign-up today!**



## GROWTHTRACK

Exciting new classes to help connect to  
our Come, Grow, Serve, and Go strategy

**COME** – How to come to Jesus and know you are saved, and how to get your friends to come to church

**GROW** – How to grow in the Lord by understanding what it means to be a disciple of Christ

**SERVE** – Understanding your spiritual gifts and how God has wired you to serve Him

**GO** – Learn how to tell your personal story and how you can share that with the world

Classes are offered once a quarter on  
Sundays at 11AM in B210

Come - Sunday, September 14

Grow - Sunday, September 21

Serve - Sunday, September 28

Go - Sunday, October 5

To sign up, email [RSVP@fishhawkfellowship.org](mailto:RSVP@fishhawkfellowship.org)

**FISHHAWK FELLOWSHIP CHURCH**

From the Creators of Men's Fraternity

**JOIN THE  
movement!**

**33**  
**THE SERIES™**  
AUTHENTIC  
MANHOOD

Practical insights. Biblical principles.

A Life Group study for Men  
Tuesday nights at 7 P.M.  
Beginning October 14<sup>th</sup>

Signup online at [www.fishhawkfc.org](http://www.fishhawkfc.org) or  
contact Tony Parker at [tparker@fishhawkfc.org](mailto:tparker@fishhawkfc.org)

A journey to Authentic Manhood as  
modeled by Jesus in His 33 years on earth.