

Discussion Guide

December 28, 2025

Don't Waste The Wrap-Up Hope Has A Name: Week 4

Pastor Daniel Groves

Main Idea

The end of a season is not throwaway time. Scripture teaches that endings matter because they reveal alignment, expose drift, and position us for what God wants to do next. This message calls us to stay spiritually awake, realign our hearts with God, and intentionally close the year with gratitude and faith. How we finish one season often determines how we enter the next. God is not rushing us forward; He is inviting us to finish well so we can step into what's next ready, not just excited.

Anchor Passage

"I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus."

(Philippians 3:14 NIV)

1. Don't Drift at the End of the Chapter

Drifting rarely happens through rebellion; it happens through neglect, distraction, and spiritual autopilot. When a season is coming to a close, it is tempting to coast rather than stay attentive. Scripture warns us because subtle drift creates real distance over time. God calls His people to finish being alert, be spiritually awake, and be intentionally connected to Him. The wrap-up season is often where drift is revealed and where God lovingly calls us back into a focused relationship.

Scripture: Hebrews 2:1

Discussion: When you think about the past season, where have you noticed yourself operating on spiritual autopilot instead of living intentionally? Why do you think drifting is harder to recognize than outright disobedience? What would staying spiritually awake look like for you as this season closes and a new one begins?

2. Alignment Is How We Finish Well

Alignment with God determines the ease or resistance we experience in life. Much of our exhaustion does not come from effort but from moving out of sync with God's direction. God does not force alignment; He responds to surrender. When we submit our ways to Him, He straightens our paths and removes unnecessary friction. Finishing aligned allows the next season to begin with clarity, peace, and confidence rather than correction.

Scripture: Proverbs 3:6

Discussion: Where have you felt resistance or frustration that may actually be the result of misalignment rather than opposition? What areas of your life require surrender instead of more effort? How can aligning with God now change how you step into the next season?

3. Pause, Give Thanks, and Remember

Peace is not meant to stay private. When believers walk calmly through chaos, it points others to something greater than self-control or personality. Our peace may be the loudest sermon someone hears this season. In a world fueled by anxiety and reaction, a steady spirit stands out. When peace guards our hearts, it also opens doors for testimony. Without saying a word, our lives begin to point people toward Jesus.

Scripture: Psalm 107:1

Discussion: What is one moment from this past season where you clearly saw God's faithfulness? Why is remembering essential before moving forward? How does choosing gratitude reshape your perspective as this season comes to a close?

"Being confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion."
(*Philippians 1:6 NIV*)

SUMMARY

God does not waste endings, and neither should we. The wrap-up of a season is a sacred space where God realigns our hearts, exposes drift, and strengthens our faith through gratitude. Finishing strong is not about perfection; it is about attentiveness, surrender, and thankfulness. As we close this year, God invites us to finish faithfully so we can step into what's next, ready for what He is continuing to build.

CALL TO ACTION

- Take time this week to prayerfully reflect on where you may have drifted and ask God to realign your heart.
 - Write down at least three specific ways God showed up for you this past year and thank Him out loud.
 - Choose to finish the season intentionally rather than rushing ahead. Decide now to finish grateful, honest, and obedient.
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GROUP LEADER RESOURCE

Activity: Flashlight Moment Reflection

Invite the group to pause in silence for 30–60 seconds and reflect on one area where God brought light, clarity, or growth this year. After the pause, invite a few people to briefly share. Close by thanking God together for His faithfulness and asking Him to carry His work to completion in the season ahead.