

# It's Not In Vain

## I Cor 15:58

*1 Cor 15:58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.*

Story – Winston Churchill being asked to speak at a graduation

He only said one sentence: “Never, Never, Never, Never quit”

### 1. ALWAYS BE STEDFAST

*Eph 6:14 Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;*

*And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;*

*Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.*

*And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;*

Feet – Roman Soldiers wore sandals with cleats

They were always ready to be pushed upon, but not willing to give

### 2. ALWAYS BE UNMOVEABLE

Story – Moving a stubborn cow

Cow will push back... To move him right, then push left... so on

Story – TVA came to Tenn... Man would not sell his property, They tripled the amount

No amount of money would work... They asked him why he would not move

“See that fireplace, my Daddy told me to not let the fire go out, that fire has not gone out in fifty years” They brought in a front end loader, he agreed to move.

We must NOT let the fire go out

“May the ones who come behind us find us faithful”

Story – Olympic torch being lit, the runners were not timed during all the relays  
Each runner had 2 goals: 1) Run the distance 2) Keep your torch lit

### 3. ALWAYS BE ABOUNDING

I counted dollars while God counted crosses.  
I counted gains while He counted losses!  
I counted my worth by the things gained in store.  
But He sized me up by the scars that I bore.  
I coveted honors and sought for degrees,  
He wept as He counted hours on my knees.  
And I never knew 'til one day at a grave,  
How vain are these things that we spend life to save!

*Phil 1:21 For to me to live is Christ, and to die **is** gain.*

*John 6:66-69 From that time many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him. Then said Jesus unto the twelve, Will ye also go away? Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life. And we believe and are sure that thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God.*

Where will you go if you leave Jesus?

The road will only lead you down a dark path and you will eventually end where you started!  
But just think of all the time you wasted away from Him.

Story – Winston Churchill speaking about the invasion of Germany

“We will fight in the streets, we will fight in the hills, we will fight on the beaches,  
But we will NEVER, NEVER, NEVER surrender”

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