

## The Finest Hour

*“For the Kingdom of God is not just a lot of talk; it is living by God’s power. Which do you choose?” 1 Corinthians 4:20-21*

What has been your finest hour? Or, stated differently, what is your finest hour? I contend that your finest hour is the hour you’re living right now. One of my favorite Scripture verses is Acts 17: 28 that says, “...*for in Him (Jesus) we live and move and have our being.*” This verse is given in present tense. Moreover, both Jehovah God and Jesus describe themselves as I AM. This declaration is also in the present tense. If you are in Christ, then every hour is to be your finest hour.

To live and move and have your being in Jesus requires listening and then instantly obeying, which is the essence of living in your finest hour. Proverbs 1:33 tells us, “*But all who listen to Me will live in peace, untroubled by fear of harm.*” And then in 4:20-22, “*My child, pay attention to what I say. Listen carefully to My words. Don’t lose sight of them. Let them penetrate deep into your heart, for they bring life to those who find them, and healing to their whole body.*” These admonitions from Proverbs describe the joy and peace we experience when we live hour-by-hour according to God’s ways. But there is more than just experiencing the “abundant life” that God offers. *Living in God’s power* infers projecting His goodness outward to those we know and meet. There is also a subtle caveat included in our text that tells us we get to choose whether we live by God’s power or not.

*Great things don’t just happen in God’s kingdom. They are a product of having a hyper-awareness of what God is doing and saying, and then joining Him in it.*

Consider John Harper, a Scottish Baptist pastor who was a passenger on the Titanic. As the ship began to sink, he made sure that his young daughter and sister were in a lifeboat. He then gave his own life jacket to another man, and continued preaching the Gospel to anyone who would listen. Eventually, when in the freezing Atlantic waters, He swam from passenger to passenger asking if they wanted to be saved for heaven. John’s last convert was a survivor he led to Christ before he perished. John Harper *was not just a lot of talk*. He chose to live by God’s power and he was therefore living in his finest hour, even while living his final hours.

Consider Desmond Doss who chose to live by God’s power. As a World War II medic who was deeply committed to God, he was ridiculed, ostracized and even beaten for his faith by his fellow soldiers. Later, while in the throes of horrific combat, Desmond personally rescued dozens of wounded soldiers, escaping heavy machine gun and mortar fire. He prayed through the hell-bent destruction, trusting in the Lord to help him save his fellow soldiers. His constant cry to the Lord was, “One more Lord, just one more.” Desmond was living in his finest hours because he was living and moving and having his being in Jesus, trusting the Lord for his next breath, moment-by-moment. Desmond *was not just a lot of talk, he was living by God’s power.*

These men didn’t somehow “rise to the occasion.” What they did was because of who they were—they lived each hour as their finest hour. The world’s wisdom says, “If you are not living in the moment, you will miss a lot of opportunities.” But read the Bible carefully, and this truism shifts dramatically, reading this way, “If you are not living *in Him every moment*, you will miss a lot of *eternal* opportunities.” You might ask, “Why would I want to live that way?” That is a fair question, but the more accurate question is, “Why wouldn’t you want to live that way?” The answer to both queries is this: the things of this world are temporary and any earthly gains are fleeting, but eternal exploits are eternal and will last forever.

People are what God cares about. John Harper's final hours were given saving souls for Jesus and His kingdom. There are people in heaven because John listened and obeyed. In the same way, Desmond Doss's life eternally impacted the men in his company, his platoon commanders and many of the men in the Pacific forces. These men accomplished these heroics because they were living each hour close to God with a listening ear. John Harper and Desmond Doss's kingdom exploits are dramatic examples with historical and eternal significance. This is a testament to God's goodness and His power; however, most of the time our obedience will go unnoticed this side of heaven. Even so, our quiet obedience pleases God and will bear eternal fruit just the same.

A preacher said this, "Think about your greatest accomplishments." After a few moments, he continued, "What have you done that will outlive you?" going on to say, "There are very few things that a person can do that will last even sixty years once he or she is dead. The only thing that will outlive you are the eternal things that you accomplished, by the leading of the Lord." As genuine believers, each of us has the opportunity to live and move and have our being in Jesus. Our finest hour is every hour when we draw close to God and chose to live by His power. —Ω

 Information and Revelation
 Application and Transformation

*Heavenly Father, thank You for drawing me to know You, and for saving me so that I can be in Christ. Thank You for the moment-by-moment relationship I have with You where You teach me, guide me, and live in me and through me.*

*LORD, I submit myself to listening carefully to Your Words. I ask for the strength and courage to allow Your Word to penetrate deep into my heart, where they will bring life and healing to my whole being. Help me live every moment in You so I will not miss the eternal opportunities You have for me to engage.*

*LORD, I want to live each hour as my finest hour; help me do that. Help me walk the talk and to choose daily to live in Your power. Help me be more aware of what You are doing and saying, so I can join You in it. Help me know that You are working behind the scenes even when I don't realize it, and that my quiet obedience is pleasing to You and produces eternal fruit because You are in it.*

*LORD, my desire is to leave a legacy of obedience that will bring You glory throughout the ages to come. As Your child, help me live and move and have my being in Jesus. Help me live my finest hour every hour as I draw close to You and choose to live by Your power. I ask this in Jesus' precious name. Amen*

By David E McFadden © 2026  
"Let's Make Disciples Together!"