



"Final Examination"
Be Encouraged series
Pastor Duane Cross, 05.03.20

Question: "How are you living your Dash?"

[2 Corinthians 13:5 \(NLT\)](#)

5 Examine yourselves to see if your faith is genuine. Test yourselves. Surely you know that Jesus Christ is among you; if not, you have failed the test of genuine faith.

1. Live a life of Encouragement

[2 Corinthians 1:3-7 \(NLT\)](#)

3 All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is our merciful Father and the source of all comfort. **4** He comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others. When they are troubled, we will be able to give them the same comfort God has given us. **5** For the more we suffer for Christ, the more God will shower us with his comfort through Christ. **6** Even when we are weighed down with troubles, it is for your comfort and salvation! For when we ourselves are comforted, we will certainly comfort you. Then you can patiently endure the same things we suffer. **7** We are confident that as you share in our sufferings, you will also share in the comfort God gives us.

[2 Corinthians 1:10b \(NLT\)](#)

We have placed our confidence in him, and he will continue to rescue us.

2. Live a life of "YES!"

[2 Corinthians 1:19-20 \(NLT\)](#)

19 For Jesus Christ, the Son of God, does not waver between "Yes" and "No." He is the one whom Silas, Timothy, and I preached to you, and as God's ultimate "Yes," he always does what he says. **20** For all of God's promises have been fulfilled in Christ with a resounding "Yes!" And through Christ, our "Amen" (which means "Yes") ascends to God for his glory.

3. Live a life of Forgiveness

[2 Corinthians 2:6-8 \(NLT\)](#)

6 Most of you opposed him, and that was punishment enough. **7** Now, however, it is time to forgive and comfort him. Otherwise he may be overcome by discouragement. **8** So I urge you now to reaffirm your love for him.

4. Live a life of Newness

[2 Corinthians 5:17 \(NLT\)](#)

17 This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!

5. Live a life of Purpose

[2 Corinthians 5:19-20 \(NLT\)](#)

19 For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people's sins against them. And he gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation. **20** So we are Christ's ambassadors; God is making his appeal through us. We speak for Christ when we plead, "Come back to God!"

6. Live a life of Generosity

[2 Corinthians 8:5 \(NLT\)](#)

5 They even did more than we had hoped, for their first action was to give themselves to the Lord and to us, just as God wanted them to do.

7. Live a life with an Undivided Heart

8. Live a life of Grace

[2 Corinthians 12:8-9 \(NLT\)](#)

8 Three different times I begged the Lord to take it away. **9** Each time he said, "My grace is all you need. My power works best in weakness." So now I am glad to boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ can work through me.

[2 Corinthians 13:5 \(NLT\)](#)

5 Examine yourselves to see if your faith is genuine. Test yourselves. Surely you know that Jesus Christ is among you; if not, you have failed the test of genuine faith.

How Do I Examine Myself?

Do I love God with all my heart?