

The Grind of Leadership

 **THE GLOBAL LEADERSHIP SUMMIT**
August 5-6, 2021 | GlobalLeadership.org/Summit

Rich Wilkerson Jr.
Lead Pastor
VOUS Church



GRIND - \ 'grīnd \ informal, laborious or routine work or study // dreary, monotonous, or difficult labor, study, or routine // the dull grind of office work

MAIN IDEA

Putting together a 50 piece puzzle is not nearly the same as putting together a 1,000 piece puzzle. As leaders, we can stare at our pile of a thousand pieces wondering how we will ever see the whole picture. Here is where we must understand that great outcomes don't happen overnight, they happen over time. Having a vision is different from seeing it come to fruition. From here to there is a grind. You'll find that the way you talk about something can change it. The way you look at your reality can change it, and if you decide to remain planted in the things you believe, you will turn the mundane moments to memorable ones because of the way you stewarded those moments.

You have to learn that anything great comes with a grind.

1. Rename the grind

Leaders talk differently about the grind.

With a name comes identity, and with that identity, a purpose. Often, the greatest lessons in life emerge from the biggest challenges. But it's easy to miss the message if we name the season for the test instead of the testimony. Or if we undervalue the small, and fail to see what God can do with our sacrifice.

- Every chapter in life has a purpose
- Let your purpose dictate your feelings, not the other way around
- If you want something to be big, you have to value small

You have to get good at looking at something small and declaring, "This is big!"

Q: What name would you give this season of your life?

Alternative Questions:

How has saying a vision out loud given it new meaning?

What are a few grinds in your life that can use renaming? // What do you need to rename?

Where do you see small improvements happening that can lead to big results?

What are the small things that you do daily that you need to call big?

Share a time a mundane moment became a memorable one because of the way you stewarded the moment.

Who has helped you change your perspective on a situation?

Have you ever felt a chapter in your life has been purposeless? How were you able to see the purpose?

2. Reframe the grind

The healthiest mindset of a leader is one of gratitude.

Leaders shift their perspective to see the value in what is often taken for granted. It's gratitude that motivates that point of view, but comparison and perfection are gratitude killers. Only with grateful hearts can leaders be confident in their commitment to the hard work.

- You can't experience the joy of your own journey while chasing the journey of others
- The search for perfection stops leaders from celebrating the process
- We do not see things the way they are, we see things the way we are

Thinking thankful is about celebrating every step of progress in the right direction.

Q: How have you been positively shifting your perspective?

Alternative Questions:

Are you using social media or is social media using you? How can you change the game?

How do you make hard work look fun and stay committed to it?

How do you stay away from comparison and seeking perfection?

What are your "show gratitude" practices?

What areas of your life have you displayed the "silver medal syndrome" in which you felt defeated because someone else did better?

What do you need to reframe?

Share a moment when you had a negative outlook on life and realized you were seeing things the way you were feeling vs. the way God sees it.

3. Remain in the grind

Embrace the grind—you're getting sharper.

The fulfillment of our purpose is dependent upon us being present. When we leave, we walk out on the relationships and calling that God has ordained. Victory lies not just in finishing the race, but in standing firm to endure the journey.

- Failure is not final, it's formative
- Quitting is leaving behind purpose, potential, and people
- Don't quit, stand firm

Victory isn't about those who go the hardest, it's about those who go the longest.

Q: Share a time you wanted to quit, but did not, and saw victory.

Alternative Questions:

Discuss a time in your life when you had to endure to see the victory.

Are you leading in a position only you can fill? How can you double down on your commitment?

How do you stand firm in faith when you have to withstand long suffering?

Where do you need to remain? // What do you need to give a second thought to before leaving?

SUMMARY

Being in a position of leadership often requires us to grind, to work hard, to remain in the mundane. It's in that grind that we have to remember to lead from a place of gratitude. As we walk out our purpose, we should be working toward progression, not perfection. Having the right outlook on our responsibilities gives us a good fighting chance at staying in the grind. Because if you don't quit, you win.

CALL TO ACTION

Identify a grind that is challenging you. Commit to renaming and reframing it.