Prayer Study #397
WORDS THAT CAN SAVE MINISTRIES
POTENTIAL PITFALLS OF MINISTRY

The Longer I am in the ministry, the more I realize how vulnerable and how prone we are to falling, and how it is only by the grace of a faithful God that we can keep faithful and finish well. Ministry is an incredible and awesome privilege. It is also an incredible and awesome responsibility. Our trust must be in the Lord and not in ourselves if we are to be faithful to the finish line.

It is possible to finish well. I am so thankful for the example of those who keep faithful to the end. They are setting a pattern for us. Their lives preach even more powerfully than their preaching. On the other hand, I've seen many servants of the Lord who ran the race well become disqualified. Today they are out of His service.

We have an incredibly active enemy, Satan, who is always attempting to cause God's servants to stumble. I want to share with you what for me personally have been nine of probably the greatest potential pitfalls in my service for the Lord, although the list is not exhaustive. <u>These are recurring areas of vulnerability.</u>

Losing the wonder
Neglecting Our Personal Relationship with the Lord
Proclaiming Truth We Are Not Living
Relying on the Natural
Leaving the Pathway of Humility
Settling for the Status Quo
Serving Without Love
Losing Perspective
Seeking Comfort and Convenience

(From High Point Church, Macon, Georgia's *The Scepter* Don Van Hoozier)