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**Fellowship of Companies for Christ
 Greater Hartford Chapter
 R HOUSE Restaurant
 June 6, 2012**

- Welcome! Opening prayer and introductions
- FCCI news/update
- Today's topic: **Don't Crash and Burn!**

You have persevered and have endured hardships for my name, and have not grown weary. Rev 2:3

Friday is my 27th birthday in the Lord. I was saved at a Christian business breakfast at the Ramada Inn in East Windsor, CT on Saturday, June 8, 1985. Since then, I've walked with the Lord nearly 9,900 days and have experienced first-hand the fact that the Christian journey is a marathon, not a sprint.

Last month, I brought Christian actor Marquis Laughlin to Connecticut to perform his one-man dramatic presentation of GENESIS. It was awesome. The last time I had seen him was about 12 years ago when he performed at Jacob's Well Coffeehouse. As he was packing up, and I was preparing to say goodbye, he told me that he was encouraged by my faithfulness all these years. "Over the years, I've seen a lot of Christians crash and burn," he lamented; "very few seem to finish the race." That caused me to pray, ponder and prepare today's topic.

I am currently reading the autobiography of General Norman Schwartzkopf of Gulf War fame. He is a very good example of someone who persevered. However, the perseverance that God wants us to possess isn't "just" for a specific war or career. It's from the day we're born again to the day we die, however long that is!

- Do you ever get weary? Leadership can be exhausting!
- Do you ever get tired of the challenges and hardships?
- Do you ever have thoughts of just bagging this whole Christian thing and diving back into the world?
- In what ways have you seen other Christians flame out?
- What desires or pressures do you feel that tempt you to crash and burn?
- How do each of us stay on-point and faithful to the end?

Evaluate yourself from 1 (weak) to 10 (strong) in terms of perseverance.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Why did you give yourself this rating?										
What benefits might you enjoy by persevering from now to your death?										
What specific actions can you take have the stamina to persevere til the end?										

- Next meeting on June 20
- Upcoming events/news, including tomorrow's business expo, ICR seminar on 6/30
- Closing prayer