

Sermon Outline
Sermon Text:1 Timothy 6:2a-21
Sermon Title: **How to Stay Battle Ready? Part 1 of 3**

1 Timothy 6:2a-21

(This is the Apostle Paul talking to his pupil, his apprentice, his under study, his disciple, Timothy)

“^{2a}...These are the things you are to **teach and insist on**.³ If anyone teaches otherwise and does not agree to the **sound instruction of our Lord Jesus Christ** and to **godly teaching**,⁴ they are conceited and understand nothing. They have an unhealthy interest in controversies and quarrels about words that result in envy, strife, malicious talk, evil suspicions⁵ and constant friction between people of corrupt mind, who have been robbed of the truth and who think that godliness is a means to financial gain. ⁶ But godliness with contentment is great gain. ⁷ For **we brought nothing into the world**, and we **can take nothing out of it**.⁸ But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. ⁹ Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰ For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, **have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs**.

¹¹ **BUT YOU**, man of God, **flee from all this**, and **pursue** righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness. ¹² **Fight** the good fight of the faith. **Take hold** of the eternal life to which **you were called** when you made your **good confession** in the presence of **many witnesses**.¹³ **In the sight of God**, who gives life to everything, and **of Christ Jesus**, who while testifying before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, **I charge you**¹⁴ to **keep this command**, without spot or blame **until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ**,¹⁵ which God will bring about in his own time—God, the blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords,¹⁶ who alone is immortal and who lives in unapproachable light, whom no one has seen or can see. To him be honor and might forever. Amen.¹⁷ **Command** those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. ¹⁸ **Command** them to **do good**, to be rich **in good deeds**, and to be **generous and willing to share**.¹⁹ In this way they will **lay up treasure** for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life. ²⁰ Timothy, **guard** what has been **entrusted** to your care. **Turn away** from godless chatter and the opposing ideas of what is falsely called knowledge,²¹ which some have professed and in so doing have **departed from the faith**. **Grace be with you all**.” (NIV)

How do you Stay Battle Ready?

1. YOU NEED TO BE _____ AND _____.

a. Notice all these encouraging and challenging words Paul speaks to Timothy.

vs. 2a **teach and insist on**

vs. 11 **flee** from all this,

pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, and gentleness.

vs. 12 he says, “**Fight** the good fight of the faith and **Take hold** of the eternal life to which **you were called** “

vs. 13 **I charge you**

vs.14 He says, "**keep this command** without spot or blame until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ,

vs. 17 "**Command** those who are rich in this present world,

vs.18 he said "**Command** them to **do good**, to be rich **in good deeds**, and to be **generous and willing to share.**"

vs. 20 he said "Timothy, **guard** what has been **entrusted** to your care. **Turn away** from godless chatter and the opposing ideas of what is falsely called knowledge."

b. Paul is acting as a Mentor, a Coach, a Discippler and a Big Brother.

A good mentor, discipler, coach and, big brother encourages and challenges you and they hold you accountable. They push you to be great and pull the greatest out of you. They remind you **WHO and WHOSE** you are.

c. We all need somebody at some point in our lives to believe in us, to hold us accountable, to tell us to stay true to who we been called to be.

d. But Jesus should be **your first** motivator and encourager, but you still need human encouragers and mentors to help you with your finances, help you to be a great man and woman of God, help you to have a healthy marriage, show you how to be single, saved and satisfied, and help you to be effective spiritually.

2. YOU HAVE TO CHOOSE HOW YOU ARE GOING TO _____.

a. Paul compared and contrasted the world way of living and a Godly way of Living. In vs. 4-13 then in vs.21 "*he says some who have professed and in so doing have **departed from the faith**. and it has cost them dearly.*"

b. And says to Timothy in vs. 11 **BUT YOU** can't live that way... "*But you man of God, **flee** from **all this**, and **pursue** righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness.*"

c. Life is all about **Choices**. The difference between you and your neighbor or the person sitting next to you is ...**Choice**. God gave all of us freedom of choice. He didn't make us robots from the beginning. He gave us a freewill to choose good over evil.

Jesus said in Matthew 6:24 "*No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other.*" (NIV)

You can choose to live Holy or live Ungodly!

You can choose to be GREAT and to be Mediocre!

At some point in your life, you got to CHOOSE how to live your own life. You can't spend all your life blaming what happen to you as excuse for not Changing Your life.

You can choose to BE SAVED or To Be Lost. It is your CHOICE!

3. YOU HAVE TO REMEMBER _____ YOU ARE AND _____ YOU ARE.

a. And if you make the Choice to be a Jesus Follower then you got to constantly remember **Who you** are and **Whose you are**.

b. Paul told Timothy in vs.12a-13b ¹²*Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses.* ¹³ *In the sight of God, who gives life to everything, and of Christ Jesus, who while testifying before Pontius Pilate made the good confession....*”(NIV)

1. He said to Timothy, you got to remember your **calling and your confession**. He said Timothy YOU MADE your good confession in presence of many witnesses. **Do you remember your confession of faith?**

2. But most importantly Paul told Timothy you made it **in front of God** “who gives life to everything.”

3. Then he said you made that confession **in front of Jesus**. Who also made that similar confession in front of Pontius Pilate. (John 18:36-37) Jesus knew who was..

c. We belong to Christ! And Christ is different! Because He is different than we are to be different... We are His followers. We made a confession to Him and a commitment to Him. The Problem with so many of us is that we spend more time trying to be like other people and less like Christ. You got His Blood. You got His DNA. You got His love, His power, His Hope, His compassion IN YOU. You just got let what is in you work its way out of you. It is “Christ in you the Hope of Glory.” (Colossians 1:27)

You can't be sidetracked or tempted by the world and fall away like others!

You got a God to Glory, and a Gospel to preach.

The greatest decision you will ever make in your life is who you let control it. And you can do that by simply praying the prayer below:

“Lord Jesus today I make a choice. I choose you. I don't understand everything, but I know I want to live for you. So come live inside of me. Forgive me of my sins and fill me with your Holy Spirit in Jesus name I pray Amen!