



FIGHT FOR IT

Part 1 – Fight the Good Fight Mark Rouse – January 7, 2018

Fight the good fight for the true faith. Hold tightly to the eternal life to which God has called you, which you have declared so well before many witnesses. - 1 Timothy 6:12

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, and I have remained faithful. - 2 Timothy 4:7

FIGHT THE GOOD FIGHT

1) Have a PLAN.

Don't you realize that in a race everyone runs, but only one person gets the prize? So run to win! ²⁵ All athletes are disciplined in their training. They do it to win a prize that will fade away, but we do it for an eternal prize. ²⁶ So I run with purpose in every step. I am not just shadowboxing. – 1 Corinthians 9:24-26

2) Know your OPPONENT.

A final word: Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. ¹¹ Put on all of God's armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil. ¹² For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places.
– Ephesians 6:10-12

3) Take a PUNCH.

Therefore, put on every piece of God's armor so you will be able to resist the enemy in the time of evil. Then after the battle you will still be standing firm. – Ephesians 6:13

So, my dear brothers and sisters, be strong and immovable. Always work enthusiastically for the Lord, for you know that nothing you do for the Lord is ever useless. – 1 Corinthians 15:58

4) Build up your ENDURANCE.

Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. ³ For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. ⁴ So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing. – James 3:2-4

God blesses those who patiently endure testing and temptation. Afterward they will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him. – James 1:12

5) GET UP when you've been KNOCKED DOWN.

The godly may trip seven times, but they will get up again. But one disaster is enough to overthrow the wicked. – Proverbs 24:16

We are hunted down, but never abandoned by God. We get knocked down, but we are not destroyed. – 2 Corinthians 4:9

✓ **Question: What are you FIGHTING FOR in 2018?**