



"Grace, Glory, and the Good Fight"

Pastor Jason West
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I. The Miracle of a Transformed Life

A. Know Your _____

1 Timothy 1:12 "I thank him who has given me strength, Christ Jesus our Lord, because he judged me faithful, appointing me to his service"

B. Know God's _____

1 Timothy 1:13-14 "though formerly I was a blasphemer, persecutor, and insolent opponent. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus."

1. A Display of a Redeemed _____ (Acts 22:19b, 26:9-11; 1 Timothy 1:14-15; Luke 18:10-14)

Acts 8:1a "And Saul approved of his execution."

Titus 3:5a "he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy"

Ephesians 2:8 "For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God"

Psalm 130:3 "If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?"

Matthew 22:37b "love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind"

Psalm 51:1 "Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions."

2. A Display of God's _____

1 Timothy 1:16 "But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life."

2 Peter 3:9 "The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance."

- **Annals of Assur-Nasir-Pal**
(Jonah 4:1-2)

II. Let Grace Turn Into _____

1 Timothy 1:17 "To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen."

A. The King of the Ages

B. The Immortal God

C. The Invisible God

D. The Only God

E. He Alone Deserves All Honor and Glory

III. Timothy, Wage the Good _____

1 Timothy 1:18-19a "This charge I entrust to you, Timothy, my child, in accordance with the prophecies previously made about you, that by them you may wage the good warfare, holding faith and a good conscience."

A. Receive Your Marching Orders

B. Fight the Good Fight

Jude 3b "contend for the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints."

IV. Two Essential Pieces of Equipment for the Battle

A. Your _____

B. Your _____

V. The Tragedy of Spiritual _____

(1 Corinthians 5:5; 1 Timothy 1:15b)

1 Timothy 1:19b-20 "By rejecting this, some have made shipwreck of their faith, among whom are Hymenaeus and Alexander, whom I have handed over to Satan that they may learn not to blaspheme."

Matthew 18:15-17 "If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector."

1 Corinthians 5:1-2 "It is actually reported that there is sexual immorality among you, and of a kind that is not tolerated even among pagans, for a man has his father's wife. And you are arrogant! Ought you not rather to mourn? Let him who has done this be removed from among you."



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BACKGROUND:

Paul's last letter before his death was to Timothy in which he said, "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." (2 Timothy 4:7) The gospel does not promise an easy uneventful life. Rather, we can expect hardships as a part of life. Paul instructed Timothy to "endure hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ" (2 Timothy 2:3). In today's passage Paul charged Timothy to "wage the good warfare, holding faith and a good conscience" (1 Timothy 1:18-19). As we study the ministry of Paul we will see how fighting the good fight is part of genuine discipleship.

DIGGING DEEPER:

Paul opens this portion of his letter by claiming that it is Jesus who gives him strength. In Philippians 4:13, Paul states "I can do all things through him who strengthens me."

1. What are some examples of how Jesus strengthens you in your everyday life (spiritually as well as physically)?
2. What were some difficulties in life that you endured simply because of the strength God gave you?

In verse 13 and 14 Paul said that he received mercy and that God's grace overflows for him. In Philippians 2:4 Paul describes God as being "rich in mercy".

3. How is God's mercy central to the gospel message and our roles as disciples?
4. Read Titus 3:4-7 and discuss how God's grace overflows for you. In His wisdom and sovereignty God saves us for a reason. Paul said he received mercy for a reason – that Christ may display His perfect patience as an example (verse 16).
5. For what reason did God save you?
6. How does God display His perfect patience in your life?

Paul entrusted to Timothy the responsibility to wage good warfare, hold fast to his faith, and reject false doctrine and those who have swerved from the truth. (1 Timothy 1:19-20; 2 Timothy 2:15-18)

7. What does waging good warfare look like in your life?
8. What does it mean that one's faith is shipwrecked?
9. How do you hold fast to your faith?

In 1 Timothy 1:20 and 1 Corinthians 5:1-5, Paul describes situations where he handed people over to Satan.

10. What is meant by the phrase "handed over to Satan"?
11. Why is it important that, as believers, we hold one another accountable?

TAKING IT HOME:

Paul's life of ministry is an excellent example of discipleship lived out, which includes understanding the gospel, sharing it with others, making disciples and holding them accountable. He encourages believers to be watchful, endure trials, and evangelize. (2 Timothy 4:5)

12. In Romans 8:37 Paul states, "No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us." In what area of life do you experience victory through Jesus?
13. God wants us to accomplish all we have been called to do. To declare "Well done good and faithful servant" (Matthew 25:21). Where in your faith journey do you need the most help (be specific)? Ask your group to pray for you and encourage you in this area.