

Conversation Starters

- In what ways does life seem like a fight right now?
- Are you thriving spiritually within the fight?

Discuss

At the end of his life, Paul gave Timothy four final life challenges that any follower of Christ can take on as well so that we will be able to say at the end of our life that we fought the good fight and remained faithful to God. The first of his challenges begins with a faith that not only believes in God, but leads to a relationship with God. Not religion, but relationship.

"I remember your genuine faith." ([2 Timothy 1:5, NLT](#))

- Do you know *about* God, or *know* God?
- Has anything kept you from tending to or even avoiding your faith?

Paul also reminds us to be intentional about developing our spiritual gifts and putting them into play. Our gifts don't arrive fully developed, and it's our individual responsibility to steward them.

"I remind you to fan into flames the spiritual gift God gave you." ([2 Timothy 1:6, NLT](#))

- What are your spiritual gifts?
- How are you developing your gifts for God and putting them into play?

Accompanying a genuine faith and using spiritual gifts should be a boldness that understands we're not simply doing something FOR God, but WITH God.

"God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline." ([2 Timothy 1:7, NLT](#))

- If you knew that you could do something or attempt something for God, and that He would show up, would that change how you felt about doing it?
- Are there areas of life you could be more bold or take a risk for God?

Fighting the good fight also means staying true to the truth, which means we don't let anything distort, water down or warp Jesus' message nor live a life that betrays the truth we proclaim by living a shadow life.

"Follow the pattern of true teachings that you heard from me in faith and love, which are in Christ Jesus. Protect the truth that you were given." ([2 Timothy 1:13-14, NCV](#))

- Are you taking in reliable sources of Jesus' message?
- Does your everyday life reflect what we learn about how Jesus tells us to live?

Next Steps

Spend some time reflecting on God and your (or what it would take to have a) relationship with Him. Ask Him to lead you into the next step of that relationship.

[Take the Spiritual Gifts Test](#)

Nov 9/12: [TeamLife Online](#)

Nov 15: [Fall Food Drive](#)

Continued Reading

2 Timothy [4:6-8](#); 1:5-8, [13-14](#); 1 Corinthians 12:1, [4-7](#).

Prayer

God, thank you for this challenge from Paul. Helps us to examine our lives and faith for authenticity and boldness that is built firmly on your truth and fleshing itself out in the world around us.