

The Good Fight

1 Timothy 6:11-12 - December 4th, 2022

Remember where we started:

1 Timothy 1:5

The purpose of the commandment is love

- **from a pure heart:** one that is free from corruption or self desire
- **from a good conscience:** not skeptical or hardened but pleasant and good
- **from sincere faith:** without disguise (No Sunday saints)

1 Peter 1:22 Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere **love** of the brethren, **love** one another fervently with a **pure heart**,
(You don't attend church, you are church)

Closing Timothy

1. FLEE
2. FOLLOW
3. FIGHT

READ 1 Tim. 6:11-12

FLEE (11)

1 Timothy 1:11 Gossip, Gain vs. Gratitude

2 Timothy 2:22 youthful lusts... instability, erraticness, sexual immorality.

Flee: to flee away or to seek safety by flight, to escape safely out of danger.

Animals to will chew their own foot off to get out of a snake/trap.

Satan's greatest trick is to let you know its wrong but hide that it's destructive.

Run to what?

(tools not remedies)

AA? Medication? Meditation? Ice Baths? Minerals & Crystals?

Run to Jesus... Prayer, Obedience to the leading of His Spirit, and the renewing of your mind by the washing of God's Word!

I have never done biblical guidance with someone who has a solid prayer life.

FOLLOW (11b)

Both 1 Timothy 1:11 & 2 Timothy 2:22 Flee AND Pursue.

PURSUE: the same expression as the FLEE but in a positive.

To flee **TOWARDS** To run swiftly in order to catch a person or thing, to seek with eagerness.

Luke 17:22-24 "...And they will say to you, 'Look here!' or 'Look there!' Do not go after *them* or **follow** *them*. "For as the lightning that flashes out of one *part* under heaven shines to the other *part* under heaven, so also the Son of Man will be in His day.

Overwhelmingly used as "persecution" or to "persecute."

Galatians 1:13 For you have heard of my former conduct in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God beyond measure and *tried to* destroy it.

1 Corinthians 15:9 For I am the least of the apostles, who am not worthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.

Paul hunted down Christians but now was hunting down or pursuing Christ.

Righteousness: personal integrity the state of him who is as he ought to be.

Godliness: your actions reflect God.

“Godliness without righteousness is just being religious.”

Faith: Trust (surrender vs. quite)... take your thoughts captive.

Love: (agape) the desire to give not get.

1 Corinthians 14:1 Pursue love, and desire spiritual *gifts*, but especially that you may prophesy.

Patience: endurance

(Hard pressed but not crushed... prayer walks)

(Doesn't crack under pressure – board up the house when a tornado is coming.)

Long marriages were not easy marriages, they were enduring marriages.

Gentleness: not weakness... power applied correctly

Are you pursuing Jesus! Start your day with the Lord.

2 Corinthians 5:9 Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him.

Don't worry about what you do not know... do what you do know.

Philippians 3:15-16 Therefore let us, as many as are mature, have this mind; and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal even this to you. Nevertheless, to *the degree* that we have already attained, let us walk by the same rule, let us be of the same mind.

FIGHT (12)

Fight the good fight...

The good fight means there are bad fights.

Fight: When applies to the Grecian games and Olympics, to compete.

When applies to enemy-occupied territory, to contend with your adversaries, fight.

In the boxing ring but won't fight.

“I'm a lover, not a fighter”

- There is your natural personality
- There is your spiritual personality... like Christ. (Indwelling of His Spirit)

Christianity is not about being good... it's about being godly.

- Punch pornography in the face
- Choke jealousy out
- Starve anger

- Fast away temptation

War against the deceitfulness of your own heart and the cunning and crafty movements of the devil and the demons who traffic in this world.

Boise Pride Festival – every thing is a fight now.

*“Collect your thoughts and tendencies in prayer and you’ll move in power”
If you just move in self-power you will fall apart*

“Not all unity is good, and not all division is bad.” - Wiersbe

Matthew 10:34-36 “Do not think that I came to bring peace on earth. I did not come to bring peace but a sword. “For I have come to ‘set a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law’; “and ‘a man’s enemies will be those of his own household.

*leaving Mormonism, Islam, Cults,
Respect Marriage Act*

Drawing water from a well

FIGHT HOW? Ultimately... *that you would lay hold of eternal life*... not find it, own it!

The opposite of casual... no more Sunday Jesus,

To which you confessed the good confession before many witnesses

When you accepted Christ did you accept Him as Lord? Is He still Lord?

Not ashamed of the gospel of Jesus Christ

Something happens when you publicly declare Christ. (Alter call?) (Baptism?)

Lay hold of eternal life... singular focused.

There is what we are fighting against but *do you know what you are fighting for?*

Your spouse, child, life situation, stop striving and start fighting the good fight.

(Bring eternity into your situation... lay hold of it.)

*If you are fighting FOR the right thing - you will fight the **right** fights - in the **right** way.*

Philippians 3:12 Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me. Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing *I do*, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

How sneaky our carnal nature is... if we don't flee, follow, and fight, we will stop being loving
Satan's greatest trick is to let you know sin is wrong but hide that sin is destructive.

Your sin has separated you from Me.

That your joy may be full

If you confess me before men I will confess you

If you deny me, I will deny you.