Sermon Discussion Guide

01.21.24 Message | Tyler Myers | 1 Timothy 6:11-16

Key Scripture:

"But as for you, O man of God, flee these things. Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness, gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and about which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. I charge you in the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, to keep the commandment unstained and free from reproach until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, which he will display at the proper time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone has immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see. To him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen."

- 1 Timothy 6:11-16

Message Highlights:

- "We must come to see that human progress never rolls in on wheels of inevitability. It comes through the tireless efforts and persistent work of men willing to be coworkers with God." – Martin Luther King Jr.
- 25% of Jesus' teaching is on money.
- Generosity is an expression of our answer to the question, "Do we trust the design, the character & the ways of God?".
- Can God trust us to be generous expressions of his design, character & ways?

DOMINATE CONCEPT AS YOU GO THROUGH THIS STUDY

Do we trust the design, character & ways of God?

CONVERSATION STARTER

 What role does trust play in fostering strong relationships, both personal and professional? How can individuals and communities build and maintain trust in today's fast-paced and interconnected world?

DISCUSS THE MESSAGE

How has the Spirit spoken to you through this section of God's Word?

THINK DEEPER (Does your group understand the passage?)

- What is the overall purpose of this text?
- The passage mentions taking hold of eternal life. How should the assurance of eternal life impact our perspective on generosity in this present life? How can a focus on eternity influence our generosity toward others?
- How does the idea of fighting the good fight of faith relate to the practice of generosity? In what sense is generosity a manifestation of one's faith and commitment to the teachings of Christ?
- Reflecting on the description of God as the blessed and only Sovereign, how does this
 understanding impact our views on wealth, possessions and our responsibility to be
 generous?

THINK LIFE CHANGE (Does your group recognize the personal implications for them as individuals?)

- How does the idea of "fighting together" as Christians align with the concept of "fighting the good fight of the faith"? What challenges or obstacles might believers face when trying to actively engage and support each other in their faith journey?
- What does it look like to fight the good fight together through generosity? How can generosity impact us for good?
- How can the pursuit of righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness and gentleness bring about a positive change in an individual's life, influencing their attitude towards generosity?

THINK ENGAGE (Does your group recognize the communal implications for us as a Gospel-centered community?)

- Discuss how the collective pursuit of the good fight of faith within the church influences the community's approach to generosity. How does faith play a role in the church's financial practices?
- Considering the charge to the "man of God" in the passage, discuss how the church can set an example in pursuing righteousness and generosity. How does fostering a spirit of trust in the Lord influence the overall generosity culture of a church?

THINK EXPAND (Does your group recognize the missional implications for those we want to reach for Christ?)

- How can the local church reflect the understanding of God as the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords, in its practices of generosity and financial stewardship? How does this reflect the life you are living in generosity?
- If God trusts us to be generous with what he has given us, how do you believe God is calling you to be an agent of change and an example to those in your circles?

THINK KINGDOM (Does your group understand the overarching Kingdom, that the work we do is bigger than ourselves?)

The scriptures reveal that how we choose to live this life has Kingdom implications. In other words, our everyday decisions have a more significant impact than we realize. Tyler offers us a challenge in the form of a question that would be appropriate for each of us to consider:

Can God trust us to be generous expressions of his design, character and ways?

How would you answer this question regarding the life you are choosing to live? If this
question ever leaves you contemplating whether you're 'doing enough' without feeling
disheartened, consider this:

What minor adjustments could you incorporate into your daily acts of generosity that would result in a more significant positive impact?