



BANNOCKBURN

LIFEGROUP CURRICULUM

WEEK 8

Ready for Personal Combat

This is Paul's battle cry to Timothy - and to us. After teaching about false doctrine, prayer, leadership, deception, relationships, and money, Paul gets personal. He tells Timothy to run away from sin and chase after godliness like his life depends on it. The phrase "fight the good fight of faith" is the heart of our whole series. This isn't just trying harder to be good - it's an active, ongoing battle to live by faith instead of by what we can see or feel. Paul reminds Timothy that God is watching and that Jesus is the perfect example of someone who fought this battle and won. Every day, Christians must choose between God's way and the world's way. Being "fight ready" means being prepared for this daily combat between faith and doubt, truth and lies, God's kingdom and our own desires.

THE SCRIPTURE: 1 TIMOTHY 6:11-16

¹¹ But as for you, O man of God, flee these things. Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness, gentleness. ¹² 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. ¹³ 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, ¹⁴ to keep the commandment unstained and free from reproach until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵ which he will display at the proper time-- he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords, ¹⁶ 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.

LIFEGROUP QUESTIONS: WEEK 8

OPENING QUESTIONS

1. Describe a time when someone confronted you about something in a way that was helpful rather than hurtful. What made the difference?
2. What's the most challenging relationship you're navigating right now? What makes it difficult?

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3. Paul addresses Timothy as "man of God" (v11). What responsibilities does this title carry? How should it affect Timothy's approach to spiritual warfare?
4. Verse 11 lists six virtues to "pursue." Create a chart defining each one in your own words and giving practical examples. Why do you think these are the essentials Paul settles on? Would you add others?
5. The command to "fight the good fight of faith" (v12) is central to our series. How is this different from merely trying to be good? What makes this fight specifically about faith?
6. "Take hold of eternal life" (v12) suggests an active pursuit. How do we actively take hold of something we've already been given? What does this mean for spiritual readiness?

7. Verses 13–14 contain a solemn charge “in the sight of God.” Why does Paul invoke such serious language? How should awareness of God’s presence affect our choice to flee these things like Timothy and pursue the Lord?
8. The description of God in verses 15–16 emphasizes His sovereignty and power. How does remembering God’s nature prepare us for spiritual battle? Why is this perspective crucial when we feel overwhelmed?
9. Paul mentions keeping the commandment “unstained and free from reproach” (v14). How does moral purity contribute to spiritual readiness? As you consider your walk with Christ, are there areas of compromise right now that is weakening your effectiveness?
10. This passage calls for both fleeing (v11) and fighting (v12). Consider that you are sitting down with a new believer in Christ and trying to explain this. How would you explain to him or her what should we flee from, and what should we fight for, and for that matter, how do we know when to do which?