

Choosing to Fight the Fight of Faith (Part 2)

I Timothy 6:11-16

We are considering the need to choose to fight the “War Within”! We saw the first command given to Timothy, as Paul urged and disciple him toward godliness.

Choosing to fight means:

I. Choosing to Flee! (6:11a)

- A. The command is to flee!
- B. We are to flee:
 - 1. Choosing to flee false doctrine.
 - 2. Choosing to flee earthly gain.
 - 3. Choosing to flee discontentment.

Today we are going to consider the second command given to Timothy.

Choosing to fight means:

II. Choosing to Pursue! (6:11b)

- A. Pursue righteousness – the ethical demands placed on a person who has been justified.
 - 1. Righteousness is the gift of God

Romans 5:17

For if, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ.

Romans 5:19

For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

2. Righteousness is God's will for His children.

Romans 6:13

Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness.

3. Righteous instruction is found in God's Word.

II Timothy 3:16-17

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷ that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work.

4. Righteousness yields effectual prayer.

James 5:16

Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.

I Peter 3:12

For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their prayer. But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.

5. Righteousness is the fruit of God's chastening.

Hebrews 12:11

For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

B. Pursue godliness

1. By repenting of your sin.

II Corinthians 7:10

For godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation without regret, whereas worldly grief produces death.

2. Godliness is a choice that requires work.

I Timothy 4:7

Have nothing to do with irreverent, silly myths. Rather train yourself for godliness;

3. Pursuing godliness means denying sinful behaviors.

Titus 2:11-12

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, ¹² training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age,

4. The pursuit is enabled by God

II Peter 1:3

His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence,