

W O M E N ' S B I B L E S T U D Y

Equipped

F O R T H E F I G H T

The Right Pursuits

1 Timothy 6:11-21

Lesson 10

People today pursue all kinds of hobbies, careers, lifestyles and relationships that very often take up most of their precious time and resources. But make no mistake about it, there is no greater pursuit in this life than the things of God. As you will see in this week's passage, these are the very things that are not often valued today, but they are very valuable to God.

To help Timothy in his position, Paul instructs him to carefully follow the right and godly pursuits. He tells Timothy to flee, or separate himself from evil and to instead pursue the things of God including righteousness, godliness, faith, and love. Timothy was surrounded by false teachers and ungodly influences and it was best to move away from their sinfulness by separating himself. We face the same challenge today and we need the Holy Spirit's help to know how to respond in each situation. As we cultivate a relationship with Him and listen as He speaks to our hearts, He will teach us about our weaknesses and show us how to flee from sin.

Paul also encourages Timothy and believers today to be equipped for the fight of faith. The fight is never to be between saints but against the enemy of this world. We fight as soldiers who refuse to surrender to the lies and tactics of the devil. Instead, we stand upon the power of God's Word! Paul had been faithful to give out the Word and now he expected Timothy to guard it and pass it on to those entrusted to his care.

The Christian woman who desires to grow in her relationship with the Lord must learn to focus on and pursue the eternal things of God and walk away from the temporal and passing distractions of this life. Pray that God will help you to focus on what matters most and above all else to follow hard after the right pursuits!

Open your Bible and begin with a word of prayer

This Week's Scripture: 1 Timothy 6:11-21

“But you, O man of God, flee these things and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, gentleness. ¹²Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. ¹³I urge you in the sight of God who gives life to all things, and before Christ Jesus who witnessed the good confession before Pontius Pilate, ¹⁴that you keep this commandment without spot, blameless until our Lord Jesus Christ's appearing, ¹⁵which He will manifest in His own time, He who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings and Lord of lords, ¹⁶who alone has immortality, dwelling in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see, to whom be honor and everlasting power. Amen. ¹⁷Command those who are rich in this present age not to be haughty, nor to trust in uncertain riches but in the living God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy. ¹⁸Let them do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to give, willing to share, ¹⁹storing up for themselves a good foundation for the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life. ²⁰O Timothy! Guard what was committed to your trust, avoiding the profane and idle babblings and contradictions of what is falsely called knowledge—²¹by professing it some have strayed concerning the faith. Grace be with you. Amen.” NKJV

This Week's Memory Verse:

“Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.”

1 Timothy 6:12

1. In our last lesson, we studied that we need to be content with what God has given us. We are to turn away from those things which can draw us away from Him, such as riches and fame. According to verse 11 in this week's passage, what are we to pursue instead?

- a. His Word tells us that this pursuit will not be easy. How does verse 12 define this struggle? _____
- b. What are we to lay hold of (v. 12)? _____

“If you read history, you will find that the Christians who did most for the present world were just those who thought most of the next. The apostles themselves, who set on foot the conversion of the Roman Empire, the great men who built up the Middle Ages, the English evangelicals who abolished the slave trade, all left their mark on earth, precisely because their minds were occupied with heaven. It is since Christians have largely ceased to think of the other world that they have become so ineffective in this.”

– C. S. Lewis (1898–1963)

2. Is this fight just a suggestion, according to verse 14? What are we told to do? _____

a. How long will this battle go on? _____

b. How does this truth encourage or discourage you? _____

3. In verses 15-16 of our scripture, Paul gives an amazing description of our Lord. Write down all the titles you find there. _____

a. Which title speaks to your heart the most and why? _____

Group Discussion

Do a study on the names of God and meditate on them. Let the Lord minister to your heart through them and share whatever the Lord shows you. _____

“Rich people should consider that they are only trustees for what they possess, and should show their wealth to be more in doing good than merely in having it. They should not reserve their benevolence for purposes after they are dead, for those who give not of their property till they die show that they would not then if they could keep it any longer.”

– Joseph Hall (1574-1656)

4. At the end of his letter, Paul gave more admonitions to those who are rich. Read the verses below and note what the Word tells us about handling riches.

a. Verse 17: _____

b. Verse 18: _____

c. Verse 19: _____

d. Understanding that the Word is living and timeless and to be applied to all of us throughout history, why do you think handling riches is mentioned? _____

5. Paul wanted to get his young study’s attention in his closing statement. What warnings did he give Timothy in verses 20-21? _____

a. How does Romans 16:17-18 shed more light on this passage? _____

b. Personal: Have you ever witnessed this kind of behavior? What was the outcome? What did you learn from this experience? _____

