


Study & Discussion Questions

- ❖ Read 2 Timothy 4:7-8 at the beginning of the message notes. Do you share Paul's hope for the future? How does it motivate you now? How do Paul's words challenge your life?
- ❖ Now read 2 Timothy 4:1-5, also on your message notes. Based on this "charge" to Timothy, what does it mean to "fight the good fight"?
- ❖ Where are you most vulnerable to temptation; the mind, the heart, or the mouth? When are you most vulnerable to temptation; are there times or seasons that are more challenging than others? Why or why not? When you are tempted, what steps do you take to overcome?
- ❖ Are you effectively using the weapons God has given you (prayer & scripture) to wage good warfare? Is there room for improvement? Share with the group.
- ❖ Look to Hebrews 4:12 on your message notes. What do you think it means that God's word is "living" or "active"? What evidence do you have that God's word is "living" or "active" in your life? How about your small group?
- ❖ How difficult is it for you to trust that Christ has won ultimate victory over the works of the devil? How should this victory show itself in your daily living?

 I'd like to challenge you to invite your kids to join you for regular and consistent reading of the Bible. Reading the Bible with your children will show them that God's word is important to you. Children learn what they live! Someone said, "Live reading the Bible with your children; and they will learn to live after God. Travel through the ages as you turn the pages of the Bible with your child and watch as God makes an eternal difference in not only his/her life, but yours."

Bible Versions: NIV—New International; NAB—New Amplified Bible;

ESV—English Standard Version; NKJV—New King James; NJB—New Jerusalem



FEBRUARY 5,

"Fight to the Finish"

2 Timothy 4:7-8 (NKJV) I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.

1 Timothy 6:12 (NKJV) 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.

☛ You're in the
, for the

2 Timothy 4:1-5 (NKJV) I charge you therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom: Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables. But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

How do you fight a life-long war?

1. Look first to your

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NorthPointe Community Church 2787 W. Bullard, # 101, Fresno, CA 93711

email: shaneham@northpointe.org or twitter: @shaneham

2 Timothy 2:3-4 (NIV) Endure hardship with us like a good soldier of Christ Jesus. No one serving as a soldier gets involved in civilian affairs--he wants to please his commanding officer.

Deuteronomy 11:16 (NAB) But be careful lest your heart be so lured away that you serve other gods and worship them.

2. Pay attention to your

1 Thessalonians 5:5-6 (NKJV) You are all sons of light and sons of the day. We are not of the night nor of darkness. Therefore let us not sleep, as others do, but let us watch and be sober.

➡ The _____, the _____, the _____

3. Don't just _____ temptation, temptation!

Colossians 3:5-8 (ESV) Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these the wrath of God is coming. In these you too once walked, when you were living in them. But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth.

4. Don't engage in _____!

Ephesians 6:12 (NIV) For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

5. Pick up and use the _____ that God has given you.

➡ _____

2 Timothy 3:16-17 (NKJV) All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

Hebrews 4:12 (ESV) For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

➡ _____

1 Timothy 2:1 (NAB) First of all, then, I ask that supplications, prayers, petitions, and thanksgivings be offered for everyone.

Ephesians 6:18 (NIV) And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.

6. Trust that the _____ has already been won!

Romans 8:37 (NJB) No; we come through all these things triumphantly victorious, by the power of him who loved us.

1 John 3:8 (ESV) The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil.