



## TODAY'S MESSAGE:

### How do we fight the good fight?

Bob Schwahn | Lead Pastor | February 6, 2022

*I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.*  
**2 Timothy 4:7 (NIV)**

#### 1) Fight for the TRUTH

Keep reminding God's people of these things. Warn them before God against quarreling about words; it is of no value, and only ruins those who listen.

**2 Timothy 2:14 (NIV)**

Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth. Avoid godless chatter, because those who indulge in it will become more and more ungodly. Their teaching will spread like gangrene. Among them are Hymenaeus and Philetus, who have departed from the truth. They say that the resurrection has already taken place, and they destroy the faith of some. **2 Timothy 2:15-18 (NIV)**

#### 2) Fight against SIN

Nevertheless, God's solid foundation stands firm, sealed with this inscription: "The Lord knows those who are his," and, "Everyone who confesses the name of the Lord must turn away from wickedness." **2 Timothy 2:19 (NIV)**

In a large house there are articles not only of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay; some are for special purposes and some for common use. Those who cleanse themselves from the latter will be instruments for special purposes, made holy, useful to the Master and prepared to do any good work. **2 Timothy 2:20-21 (NIV)**

#### 3) Fight against FIGHTS

Flee the evil desires of youth and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart. Don't have anything to do with foolish and stupid arguments, because you know they produce quarrels. And the Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful. Opponents must be gently instructed, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the truth, and that they will come to their senses and escape from the trap of the devil, who has taken them captive to do his will. **2 Timothy 2:22-26 (NIV)**



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*Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. 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. Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.*  
**Ephesians 6:10-13 (NIV)**

#### Reflection Questions:

- 1) Have you ever gotten into a quarrel or "word fights" with someone about your faith in Jesus? Describe that experience? What was the outcome?
- 2) Why is "accurately handling the word of truth" so important in our fighting the good fight for the gospel?
- 3) From the sermon: What are truths you would die for, divide for, or choose to decide for? What truths do you believe are essential and non-essential with regard to our salvation and the gospel message?
- 4) Why is the purity of our life ("being a clean vessel") important in how we fight the good fight of the faith? What areas of your life need cleansing in order to be more useful to the Master?
- 5) What is the difference between gentleness and timidity? How can a Christian balance meekness and humility on one hand with boldness and confidence on the other?
- 6) Can winning an argument also win souls? Why or why not? What is the role of Christian apologetics—reasoned arguments to justify Christianity—in sharing our faith with others?
- 7) Who is someone in your world that doesn't follow Jesus that you could reach out to and have a faith conversation? What is your next step in learning to have faith conversations?