

SAINTS OF STEEL

¹ Timothy 4:1-8

Radically Ordinary

Context

- We are predisposed to be drawn away from the basics of the Christian life.
- The fact that we fail to live with an awareness that we live in a spiritual environment that is controlled by our adversary.

1 Timothy 4

⁶ If you point these things out to the brothers and sisters, you will be a good minister of Christ Jesus, nourished on the truths of the faith and of the good teaching that you have followed. ⁷ Have nothing to do with godless myths and old wives' tales; rather, train yourself to be godly. ⁸ For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come.

Looking back (6-8)

- A) Don't forget to remind others of the obvious
- B) Don't participate in pointless arguments
- C) Don't forget to take care of yourself
 - 1. Remember the fundamental truths
 - 2. Remember basic disciplines

1 Timothy 4

⁹ This is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance. ¹⁰ That is why we labor and strive, because we have put our hope in the living God, who is the Savior of all people, and especially of those who believe.

Looking back (6-8)

D) Don't expect this to be easy.

1. Labor – indicates *hard* work
2. Strive – taken from the athletic arena
3. Focus – future hope

1 Timothy 4

¹¹ Command and teach these things. ¹² Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity. ¹³ Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to preaching and to teaching. ¹⁴ Do not neglect your gift, which was given you through prophecy when the body of elders laid their hands on you.

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Living in the now (11-14)

A) Understand the need to instruct

1. Command
2. Instruct

¹⁶All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, ¹⁷so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

2 Timothy 3:16–17

Living in the now (11-14)

B) Understand the power of a role-model

1. Watch what you say
2. Be careful about the way you live
3. Three practical objectives for Timothy
 - a. Public reading of scripture
 - b. Preaching (exhortation)
 - c. Teaching (how to)
4. Don't forget the need for balance

1 Timothy 4

¹⁵ Be diligent in these matters; give yourself wholly to them, so that everyone may see your progress. ¹⁶ Watch your life and doctrine closely. Persevere in them, because if you do, you will save both yourself and your hearers.

Looking forward (15-16)

1. Be diligent
2. Be focused
3. Be aware
4. Persevere

What now?

1. Realize the seriousness of these issues.
2. Ask God to help you find people to whom you can be accountable.
3. Experiment.
4. Keep it personal.
5. Keep a record.

So What

- What disciplines are you currently practicing?
- Does your faith have a past, present and future focus?
- If someone were to follow your example would you be proud or would you want to change the impression?
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