

Guard Duty

1 Timothy 6:17-19

Radically Ordinary

1 Timothy 6:11-16

¹¹ BUT YOU, MAN OF GOD, FLEE FROM ALL THIS, AND PURSUE RIGHTEOUSNESS, GODLINESS, FAITH, LOVE, ENDURANCE AND GENTLENESS. ¹² FIGHT THE GOOD FIGHT OF THE FAITH. TAKE HOLD OF THE ETERNAL LIFE TO WHICH YOU WERE CALLED WHEN YOU MADE YOUR GOOD CONFESSION IN THE PRESENCE OF MANY WITNESSES. ¹³ IN THE SIGHT OF GOD, WHO GIVES LIFE TO EVERYTHING, AND OF CHRIST JESUS, WHO WHILE TESTIFYING BEFORE PONTIUS PILATE MADE THE GOOD CONFESSION, I CHARGE YOU ¹⁴ TO KEEP THIS COMMAND

1 Timothy 6:11-16

WITHOUT SPOT OR BLAME UNTIL THE APPEARING OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, ¹⁵ WHICH GOD WILL BRING ABOUT IN HIS OWN TIME—GOD, THE BLESSED AND ONLY RULER, THE KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS, ¹⁶ WHO ALONE IS IMMORTAL AND WHO LIVES IN UNAPPROACHABLE LIGHT, WHOM NO ONE HAS SEEN OR CAN SEE. TO HIM BE HONOR AND MIGHT FOREVER. AMEN.

1) Context

²⁰ TIMOTHY, GUARD WHAT HAS BEEN ENTRUSTED TO YOUR CARE. TURN AWAY FROM GODLESS CHATTER AND THE OPPOSING IDEAS OF WHAT IS FALSELY CALLED KNOWLEDGE, ²¹ WHICH SOME HAVE PROFESSED AND IN SO DOING HAVE WANDERED FROM THE FAITH.

GRACE BE WITH YOU.

1 TIMOTHY 6:20-21

1) Context

- A clear command
 - A posture of attention
 - An attitude of diligence
- A reiterated emphasis

¹³ What you heard from me, keep as the pattern of sound teaching, with faith and love in Christ Jesus. ¹⁴ Guard the good deposit that was entrusted to you—guard it with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us. 2 Timothy 1:13–14

- The present context

Know what to flee (11a)

- Pride
- Fruitless arguments
- The temptation to put money in God's place
- Sexual temptation

Know what to pursue (11b)

- Righteousness
- Godliness
- Faith
- Love
- Endurance
- Gentleness

Keep perspective (12)

- This world is not a neutral environment
- We are in a battle

As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, ² in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. ³ All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath.

Ephesians 2:1–3

Keep perspective (12)

- There is more to life than what we see in this world.

WWJD (13)

- We live in the sight of God
- Jesus did not back down even in the face of the greatest temptation

² Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. ³ Consider him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

⁴ In your struggle against sin, you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood.

Hebrews 12:2-4

Keep it up (14)

- This battle is for a limited duration
- The battle will be a constant during this life time
- The battle will end
- Our goal
 - Without spot
 - Without blame
 - Until Jesus comes

Remember whose battle this is (15-16a)

- God
 - The blessed and only Ruler
 - The King of kings
 - The Lord of lords
 - Who alone is immortal
 - Who lives in inapproachable light
 - No one has seen or can see
- The need to understand the source of authority

Respond appropriately (16b)

- Live in such a way as to give God honor

So What

- What do you need to flee?
- What do you need to pursue
- Where do you need to persevere?