

FOCUSED SIMPLICITY

FIGHT – [The Charge of 1 Timothy]

1 Timothy 4

¹ The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons. ² Such teachings come through hypocritical liars, whose consciences have been seared as with a hot iron. ³ They forbid people to marry and order them to abstain from certain foods, which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and who know the truth. ⁴ For everything God created is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving, ⁵ because it is consecrated by the word of God and prayer.

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. 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.

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.

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. NIV

Make progress through diligence.

1 Timothy 4:15 Be diligent in these matters; give yourself wholly to them, so that everyone may see your progress. NIV

1 Peter 2:2 Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation. NIV

2 Peter 1:5-8 For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; ⁶ and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; ⁷ and to godliness, mutual affection; and to mutual affection, love. ⁸ For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. NIV

Sermon: *Discipline and Devotion* (from March 12th)

Emphasize what the Bible emphasizes.

1 Timothy 4:16 Watch your life and doctrine closely. Persevere in them, because if you do, you will save both yourself and your hearers. NIV

Phrases of emphasis:

- The most important one...
- Devote yourselves to...
- I urge you...
- Make it your goal...
- Make every effort...
- What counts...
- I charge you...
- Above all...

Phrases of emphasis help us focus on and remember the right things.

Look at the emphasis in this chapter!

Be diligent in *these* matters.

1 Timothy 4:15 Be diligent in these matters; give yourself wholly to them, so that everyone may see your progress. NIV

Think about what is not being emphasized.

Pursue what is being emphasized.

- Chapter 1:
- Chapter 2:
- Chapter 3:
- Chapter 4: