



OUTLIVE YOUR LIFE

“The Call to Grow”

1 Timothy 6:11-16

April 21, 2013 A.M. Service

Flee from the Carnal... you Man of God Vs 11a

Follow Christ – Pursue Vs 11b

- ✓ Righteousness
- ✓ Godliness
- ✓ Faith
- ✓ Love
- ✓ Perseverance
- ✓ Gentleness

Fight the Good Fight Vs 12a

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- ✓ You are Called
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- ✓ His Return at the Proper Time
- ✓ Our Recognition of the Character of God

Some Helpful Resources to Consider

- *Revolutionary Generosity* by Kirk Nowery
- *360 Degree Stewardship* by Kirk Nowery
- *Your Money Counts* by Howard Dayton
- *The Eternity Portfolio* by Alan Gotthardt
- *Wealth Conundrum* by Ralph Doudera
- *Partners With God* by Bobby Eklund & Terry Austin
- *The 33 Laws of Stewardship* By Dave Sutherland & Kirk Nowery
- *Radical* by David Platt
- *Not a Fan* by Kyle Iddleman
- Crown Financial Resources
- Financial Peace University

Our Response:

1. Start Praying NOW about what your commitment to GROW will be during this OutLive Your Life Emphasis. How will you Connect? How will Serve? How will Grow? How will you Go?
2. Also start praying now about what you will GIVE to this 2 Year Emphasis that will allow us to continue GROW and add complete some much needed projects as well as bring on additional staff
3. Finally pray that others in our Church Family will also make commitments to GROW and GIVE as we all seek to OutLive Our Lives!!

OUTLIVE YOUR LIFE

“The Call to Grow”

1 Timothy 6:11-16

April 21, 2013 AM Service

We continue our series of OutLive Your Life this morning and look a little further into Chapter 6 and one of my favorite sections from the book of 1 Timothy. It is really a part of the challenge to outlive our lives and specifically to look at our call to grow. This emphasis though is certainly about the giving about of our financial resources, it is much more about our growing deeper in our walk, finding our service, getting connected to this Church Family and helping others to do the same. What we give certainly will outlive us, but more than that how we grow and who we become in Christ will far outlive what we give!! So let's take a look this morning at Paul's challenging and encouraging words to young Timothy!

Flee from the Carnal... you Man of God Vs 11a

Man of God

What an incredible term he uses here... and one that is not used lightly. This was given to very few in the Word of God, Moses, Samuel, Elijah and David so this title put him in great company. Paul had before called Timothy his child (1 Timothy 1:2), his son (1 Timothy 1:18) and then his brother (2 Corinthians 2:1 and other places) but here that title is very different! It is title of honor, of his calling of Paul's belief in him – this section of the letter Timothy had to have read over and over

ILLUS: Letter from Brett from my ordination The question stands here – what do people say about us and what will they say about us?

Flee phuego we get our word fugitive - A strong word here which is followed by another to pursue – two important parts of growth and growing as a disciple – things to be avoided (evil) and things to be pursued in life (these virtues – Christlikeness)

There are times when running away from something is cowardly but others times when it is a mark of great wisdom and a means of great victory There are certain things to be avoided at all costs and not passively either, but to because something is after us! **ILLUS: Taught not to run, but to stand firm** – but sometimes this is a pride thing and it we fall! Wisdom is knowing when to flee and when to stand! Here the context fleeing refers

to the love of money and the false teachers and their teaching but it can be taken further where in other places Paul challenges us to flee from sexual sin in [1 Corinthians 6:18](#) and idolatry [1 Corinthians 10:14](#) and youthful lusts in [2 Timothy 2:22](#).

The word is in the present tense which indicates we are to constantly flee from these things in our lives. So are you fleeing in your daily life? Part of our growth is knowing when to flee and where our weaknesses are and where we are vulnerable to the temptation of the enemy. This is a sign of growth that we know when it's time to flee and we do it!

Follow Christ – Pursue Vs 11b

Again, there must be balance, we must not be just known for what we are against and what we avoid, but what we are for, what who we are following and what we are pursuing in our lives. We can't stop in our lives, if we do then what is behind us (sin) will catch us and we will miss the goal of holiness and pursuit of these virtues, characteristics, lifestyles. See if these are a part of your daily life right now...

✓ **Righteousness**

Means to do what is right in relation to both God and man. It can also mean personal integrity – the inside life that no one sees

✓ **Godliness**

This has to do with attitude and motive. Right behavior flows from right motives. We see this as practical piety, the outside conduct that others see. Refers to reverence for God flowing out of a worshiping heart. It could be translated God-likeness. To be aware of God's presence in our everyday lives. It means to live seeking to be like God.

✓ **Faith**

Simply confident trust in God for everything to believe and to be faithful. It involves loyalty to the Lord and unwavering confidence in His power, purpose, plan, provision and promise. It has well been said that the greatest ability is dependability.

✓ **Love**

It is the agape love that sacrifices for the sake of others. It seeks to give, not to gain. It is love of volition and choice. It is unrestricted and unrestrained, encompassing love for God, other believers and even those non-believers. He gets the call of Christ in [Matthew 22:37-39](#) !

✓ Perseverance

It carries the idea of "endurance," sticking to it when the going is tough! It is not a complacency that waits, but a courage that continues in hard places. It is victorious endurance. "It is an unwavering devotion to faith and godliness in spite of adversity and suffering." It enables the man of God to stick with the task no matter the cost.

✓ Gentleness

"Meekness" is not weakness, but instead is "power under control." Courageous endurance without meekness could make a person a tyrant. It describes a spirit that knows how to forgive and yet knows how to wage the battle of righteousness. One who walks in great humility but in pride of living and walking in the high call of God.

Fight the Good Fight Vs 12a

The verb means "keep on fighting!" It is a word from which we get our English word agonize, and it applies both to athletes and to soldiers. It described a person straining and giving his best to win the prize or win the battle. Near the end of his own life, Paul wrote, "I have fought a good fight" 2 Timothy 4:7. It is a good fight, versus a bad one if you will.

A quick reminder this fight is not between believers nor is it even with non-believers. Paul reminds us elsewhere that our fight is not with others, but "For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places." Ephesians 6:12

It is a constant battle against the flesh, the devil, and the resistance of the fallen world that love sin and error and hates truth and holiness.

The problem comes when believers don't realize, choose to ignore or go AWOL from the fact that we are ALL called to be in the battle! The question has to be asked are you in fight today? Do you understand that your call is abundantly clear – stand guard, be alert, oppose the enemy, make a difference in this life! We won't outlive our lives if we are don't! and one final thought, a fight is costly, you aren't in the fight if your Christian walk isn't costing you anything. We should sacrifice, serve, pray, worship, give, and go if we are to truly outlive our lives! Our culture as we have seen this week is going to the tube quickly – we must fight!!

Hold on to Eternal Life Vs 12b

Take hold of it – keep your grip on - doesn't mean that Timothy needed salvation, but instead to live in light of eternity, to keep always in view – to have the right perspective. And we can walk in confidence and faith knowing we fight and live from our security as a follower of Christ. He gives him 2 reminder about taking hold of that eternal life.

✓ **You are Called**

Timothy had been called by the Lord and answered that call. You have been called too, the question is have you answered that call? That is a great assurance in our lives not only salvation but from our calling in life, to know that is why we are and what we are to do. And again to reiterate, that call to flee and to fight! Have you answered the call?

✓ **You Made a Confession**

This referred to his public confession of faith which by the way we just experienced today by these 2 brothers in baptism – [Romans 10:9](#) Have you made that public confession – for some of you in this 2 year Emphasis to Grow needs to be to make that public confession, to publicly profess Christ, to publicly join this church family and not just be an attender, (not in the fight if you don't).

Fulfill Your Call Vs 13-14a

We come to the 4th strong imperative verb, Flee, Fight, Take Hold of, and now I charge you to keep the commandment, these strong words of challenge and encouragement and one that we need to sit up and listen to, one that challenges us to OutLiving Our Lives by doing these very things! I charge you to what – to fulfill the call Christ has placed on your lives.

✓ **The Encouragement**

You are not alone – don't forget the our Father who by the way gives life to all things is with us! And because He is the creator of life, He also will sustain and preserve our lives until His Sovereign purpose are accomplished in and through our lives! Not only that, don't forget that Christ testified and held fast to His confession no matter the cost! Our Savior boldly stood His ground and spoke the truth and entrusted His life to the Father – again the Giver of Life! Though He knew it would cost Him His Life, He knew that the Father would raise Him from the dead! It is no different for us!

✓ **The Expectation**

That our call is the same to keep the commandment – to follow the Word of God and His call on our lives to grow, serve, and give and go and tell and follow and on and on and to do so without stain or blemish! Doesn't mean that we will be perfect, but that our lives gives no reason for someone to accuse of wrongdoing, to be men and women of integrity where people can't say things about us – we don't want to give any person a reason not to trust and follow Christ!

And we are to do this until Christ appears either at the 2nd coming or when He calls us home, whichever happens first! It isn't some one-time event, it is a LIFETIME event! We don't just accept Christ and that's it, we never do anything else, this morning these 2 boys are just starting their journey and it doesn't end until we are at home in heaven with our Savior!!

Finish Your Course Vs 14b-16

This echoes to Paul's statement to Timothy in [2 Timothy 4:1-8](#) where He said – we will be able to say that about our lives? We have a clear call this morning to finish our course, to finish our part of the race and as a result to outlive our lives! There are 2 clear motivations and reminders...

✓ His Return at the Proper Time

Christ will return, there is no question about it, it is clearly stated in the New Testament and referred to even in the Old Testament. The angels said it, Jesus said it, the apostles preached it and even expected it during their lifetime. So no doubt about it, but sometimes when it is delayed in our understanding, we think it may not happen or not now, but it is also clear that it will come when we least expect it and at the time that the Father has already set before the beginning of time itself! The fact that He will return should motivate us to finish our course, oh how we want to hear those incredible words, well done thy good and faithful servant!! Remember that our life is but a vapor, it is quick – we are young and then old before we realize it!

✓ Our Recognition of the Character of God These things alone God possess and no one else does! They are unique to Him

- **One Who is Absolute in Power** – He is blessed – God alone is satisfied in Himself – He needs nothing or no one! He alone is Sovereign – the ruling One, the only Ruler and above that He is the king of all Kings and the Lord of all lords!

- **One Who is Ageless in Person**

He alone is immortal, death does not affect Him – He is above it! He is the giver of life and He decides and knows when our lives on this earth will be over.

- **One Who is Awesome in Presence**

His presence is like no other and no one can be in His presence, no person on this earth has seen Him or will see Him on earth! That alone is reserved for heaven. We couldn't stand it because of his great holiness – we wouldn't live. Remember only Moses saw the goodness of God and Elijah saw the departing presence of God and the Peter, James and John, experienced just a glimpse of it.

- **One Who is Arrayed in Praise**

We give him the praise He is due and deserves, that we recognize that He alone deserves the honor and all power belongs to him and that our lives reflect that very truth!