

Family Worship Guide – Week 42

READ

This week we continue our study of First Timothy. Timothy was a young pastor in the church at Ephesus. Paul wrote this letter to Timothy to tell him how he should lead the church.

Paul was the missionary who had planted the church at Ephesus and preached there for three years (Acts 20:31).

Read 1 Timothy 6:11-21. Notice the contrast between verses 11, 17-19 and 1 Timothy 6:3-10. Talk through the different qualities listed in verse 11. Notice that the words “flee” and “pursue” are used. A picture is being presented of those things that are “ungodly” and those that are “godly.” Paul calls Timothy to run from the former and run to the latter. Spend some time contrasting together what you have found in 6:3-10 with what you see in verses 11, 17-19.

In verses 15-16 we see an amazing picture of Christ in his glory. These are titles seen more commonly in the book of Revelation (17:14, 19:16). This idea of the kingship of Christ will be explored further in the weeks to come. Paul had just previously used the image of Christ confessing before Pontius Pilate as an example to Timothy to confess the truth boldly. In light of the false teaching Timothy is exhorted to stand firm against it is a fitting encouragement from Paul.

1 Timothy 6:3-10 concerned those desiring to be rich, but verses 17-19 concentrate on those who are already rich. Paul points out two dangers here—arrogance and dependence on money. Humility, generous giving, and a heart and mind that understand that God is the source of all they need is the instruction to combat having wealth now. Notice how dangerous wealth can be as presented here. For those of us who are rich this should serve as a great warning to us. Paul speaks very heavily about the sins that can result from having great wealth.

Paul’s closing comments follow this line of thinking: in light of the dangers of false teaching and sinful love of money all around him, guard yourself. This is a command we should take seriously ourselves.

Questions:

How does 1 Timothy 6:11-21 fit into your understanding of the rest of 1 Timothy?

Do you think you would be considered wealthy? Identify the commands and warnings in this passage for you concerning wealth.

Pray together as a family against the dangers of wealth. Pray through verses 6-10 and 17-19, that the warnings would not be true of you and that the commands would be true of you.

Read 2 Timothy 1:8-14. Notice the similarities between this passage and the end of 1 Timothy. Talk together about what this passage means for us.

Bottom Line: Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of eternal life and guard the truth that has been entrusted to you against false teaching and the dangers of wealth. Fix your hope on the return of your King, Jesus.

PRAY

As we explore this final text in 1 Timothy 6, we will examine what it means to “fight the good fight of the faith” (1 Timothy 6:12). We will consider all that is at stake in our lives, in the church, and in the world when it comes to the defense, application, and advancement of the gospel. Together, we will resolve, by the grace of God and for the glory of God, to let the gospel shape every facet of our faith family. Pray that any and all weaknesses in our church would be strengthened for the sake of the gospel going forth from us. Pray that the gospel would saturate who we are and how we live together. Pray that lives all over this church would be set on gospel proclamation, knowing that the time is short.

SING

Our God is powerful enough to have turned water into wine. He alone can redeem sinners to himself. He is above all things, better and more powerful, and he is our light of hope in a dark world. With that knowledge, we need not fear the trials and dangers of life. Indeed, “if our God is for us, then who could ever stop us”? These lyrics from ‘Our God’, our song for the week, remind us to persevere and stand strong on the promises of God as we fight for the faith. Let these

words of truth encourage you as you sing and strengthen you throughout the week. Lord, we praise you because there is “none like you”!

MEMORIZE

1 Timothy 6:12 “Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and about which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.”

SUGGESTIONS

These suggestions were created by the age-group ministry leaders as a way to help parents better communicate the biblical truths discussed in the Family Worship Guide. These suggestions are intended to help parents facilitate God-centered discussions with their children. Parents should prayerfully use these suggestions, and any other means necessary, to help their children discover the truths of God’s word and worship Him together.

Preschool

- Before you begin, draw two “sad face” circles and one “smiley face” circle on separate pieces of paper. Place one sad face circle, slightly hidden, in a toy box or taped to a favorite toy. Then, place the other sad face circle on top of some money or in a jar of coins in a different room. Next, place the smiley face circle inside of a Bible, and place the Bible in plain sight somewhere in the room where you will be having your family worship time. Later, you will be going on a “seek and find” mission to hunt for these items.
- Show your child your Bible. Explain to them that the Bible is God’s word. Ask your child if everything in the Bible is true. The answer is, yes, everything in the Bible is true. Reply that since everything in the Bible is true, do they think it pleases God when we read our Bible and try and follow God’s plans? Yes, faith pleases God.
- Read 1 Timothy 6: 11b-12a.
- Explain to your preschooler that God wants us to follow his plans for us and not the ideas or plans of other people. To “fight the good fight” means to choose to follow God and his plans. He wants us to love others like he loves us, to be kind and gentle and to be faithful to his word. God is enough. He is more important than money, toys, or anything. Following God’s plan leads to God’s promises and happiness with Jesus forever. That’s a big deal!
- Now, it’s time to play “Seek and Find.” Tell your preschooler that you will be going on a search together to locate something that will lead you to God’s truths and promises. Guide your child to the room where the sad face toy is hidden. Once the child finds the sad face, praise them for finding it, and ask them why they think there is a sad face on the toy. If toys are more important than God, would that make God happy? Would it make you happy? No, nothing is more important than God.
- Repeat the same scenario with the hidden money. Now, lead your child to the room with the hidden smiley face and the Bible. When it is discovered, ask why they think there is a smiley face inside the Bible. Is everything in the Bible true? Yes! When we follow the truths in the Bible and “fight the good fight” by standing on the promises of his Word, then we are choosing to follow God. This pleases God and will lead to happiness with Jesus forever. Remember, God is more important than things like toys and money. God is enough. He is more important than anything!
- Pray and ask God to help your child follow God’s commands and truths. Pray that God will be the most important thing in your child’s life.

Children

- As a family, re-read 1 Timothy 6:12.
- Paul tells Timothy to fight. We often think of fighting as a negative thing, but there is a type of fighting that followers of Jesus should – even must – do. Followers of Jesus are to fight against sinful and worldly desires that surround us and can so easily sneak into our own hearts and lives. Especially dangerous is the possibility of becoming prideful because of having wealth, looking down on others and no longer humbly depending on God to provide for all of our needs.
- Paul tells Timothy that there is a secret weapon in this fight – to “take hold of the eternal life” he has been called to and to fix his eyes on King Jesus, who will soon return.
- Object lesson:
 - Tightly roll up two sheets of standard sized newspaper to form two paper swords.
 - Roll up a standard sized sheet of computer/printer paper, forming a hollow tube with a roughly 1-inch diameter opening. Use a strip of tape to secure the paper in this shape.
 - Pick one child and blindfold them with a bandana or old shirt, covering one eye and leaving the other uncovered.
 - Have children compete against mom or dad or one another. Tell them that when you say “go” they will sword fight. Whoever can first lightly strike the other on the arm between the elbow and shoulder will be the winner –

no head and face shots allowed. ☺ Instruct your child that they must keep the blindfold on at all times and look through the rolled paper cylinder with the other eye as they compete. Then, switch places, making the other player wear the blindfold and look through the cylinder.

- Explain: the player who had impaired vision couldn't compete as well in the duel as the other, and probably lost pretty quickly. Not being able to see well practically guaranteed that the blindfolded child would lose the competition.
- Draw the parallel: Keeping our eyes on Jesus and seeing him clearly makes all the difference in the fight of faith. Knowing what a great treasure King Jesus is helps us to value him more highly than any earthly treasure, to be generous, and avoid the pitfalls of materialism or teaching that goes against the Word.
- Pray as a family for a clear view of King Jesus and for a greater desire to know Him through prayer and His Word.

Students

- As a family, read 1 Timothy 6:20-21.
- Paul is closing his letter to Timothy and charges him one last time to be faithful with what he'd been given and to guard it like it's a priceless treasure.
- Treasure is something we know about. Hollywood has painted an incredible picture of what it looks like to search for, find, and guard treasure. List as many movies as you can about treasure hunts filled with clues, hidden maps, and amazing treasure.
- As a believer, you have been entrusted with the greatest treasure ever known – the gospel of Christ. Paul's charge is to guard it. Why might it need guarding? Why does anything need guarding?
- Is Paul saying we should guard this treasure that has been entrusted to us in such a way that no one else can get to it? Discuss this as a family. Follow this discussion by reading Matthew 5:14-16.
- How are we to guard the Gospel without hiding it from the world?
- The enemy loves to distract and discourage us as believers. If he can distract us from what is most important, even through good things, he can begin his work of doubt and discouragement.
- Paul tells Timothy to guard himself from what is falsely called knowledge and to turn from godless chatter and opposing ideas.
- What are some ways the evil one might lure us into unimportant chatter or focusing on things of little importance? How has this happened in your life lately? Discuss.
- Close in prayer asking the Lord to guide you and your family in wisdom. Ask him for the strength to make a stand and stay focused on your faith. Ask the Holy Spirit to help guard the gift entrusted to you.

Prayer

Lives/Church

As we explore this final text in 1 Timothy 6, we will examine what it means to “fight the good fight of the faith” (1 Timothy 6:12). We will consider all that is at stake in our lives, in the church, and in the world when it comes to the defense, application, and advancement of the gospel. Together, we will resolve, by the grace of God and for the glory of God, to let the gospel shape every facet of our faith family. Pray that any and all weaknesses in our church would be strengthened for the sake of the gospel going forth from us. Pray that the gospel would saturate who we are and how we live together. Pray that lives all over this church would be set on gospel proclamation, knowing that the time is short.

Local

Local Church: Valleydale Baptist - Calvin Kelly

Focus: Marks Village Outreach - on October 29th, 10:00am-2:00pm, Brook Hills is partnering with Divine Faith Missionary Baptist Church and Mission Birmingham to bring the residents of Marks Village a Health Clinic, Fall Festival, and Clothes Closet. Marks Village is a Birmingham Housing Authority Community with 500 housing units located in Gate City. This event will help residents connect with members of Divine Faith and will be the kickoff for additional ministry here with Mission Birmingham.

Monday: Pray that individuals who attend the Health Clinic will be open to the gospel as they see it demonstrated by the volunteers helping throughout the day.

Tuesday: Pray that volunteers from Brook Hills and other local churches will be bold to share the gospel during the health clinic/fall festival.

Wednesday: Pray that through this event the residents of Marks Village will see Divine Faith as a place for them to worship.

Thursday: Pray for Cory Jackson, Director of the community center there, to have wisdom and that residents will trust him. Pray they will attend the programs he is putting in place.

Friday: Pray for safety during the day. Also, pray for the continual safety, peace, and welfare for all of all the residents who live here.

Saturday: Pray for all the residents that attend the clinic/fall festival to embrace the advice given to them from doctors and nurses for their future health.

Scripture Memory

“Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and about which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.” 1 Timothy 6:12

Week 42

Our God

by Matt Redman, Chris Tomlin, Jesse Reeves & Jonas Myrin

Water you turned into wine
Opened the eyes of the blind
There’s no one like you
None like you

Into the darkness you shine
Out of the ashes we rise
There is no one like you
None like you

Our God is greater
Our God is stronger
God you are higher than any other
Our God is Healer
Awesome in power
Our God our God

And if our God is for us
Then who could ever stop us
And if our God is with us
Then what could stand against

Due to copyright limitations, we are only allowed to print the lyrics to this song with no chords. We encourage you to download an mp3 of this song from iTunes.

Global

Short Term Teams: There are no short term trips this week.

Partner: Brook Hills’ partner Troy serving Muslims living in London

Monday: Troy works among Muslims in London. Pray for God to provide many opportunities to engage men and women who need to hear the gospel.

Tuesday: Troy shepherds a house church of Muslim-background Christians. Pray for God to give Troy wisdom as he raises up leaders among that church who will make disciples. Pray for the growth of other churches as they multiply.

Wednesday: Troy and his wife recently welcomed their third child into the world. Please pray for their family as they adjust to having an infant in the home and for God to use this time to strengthen their family as they minister to those around them.

Thursday: Troy engages Muslims in community centers and by teaching English classes. Pray for the people Troy engages to be open and for a clear understanding of their need for Christ.

Friday: Troy has been battling serious health issues with his back that hinder his ability to work on a day-to-day basis. Pray for complete healing for Troy to the glory of God so that he may continue to work diligently to share the gospel among the unreached.

Saturday: Troy has been interacting and meeting with a group of Muslim men for over a year. Pray for these men to know Christ.

