

Title: The Marks of a Man of God

Scripture: I Timothy 6:11-14

Speaker: Vic Redding

Event: Sunday Morning Service

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I Timothy 6:11-12 *“But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness. 12 Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses. I give thee charge in the sight of God, who quickeneth all things, and before Christ Jesus, who before Pontius Pilate witnessed a good confession; 14 That thou keep this commandment without spot, unrebukeable, until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ:”*

**Scriptures that called men “men of God”** Deuteronomy 33:1 – Moses

I Samuel 9:10 – Samuel

I Kings 17:18 – Elijah

II Kings 5:8 – Elisha

II Chronicles 8:14 – David

I Kings 12:22 – Shemaiah

Jeremiah 35:4 - Igdaliah

II Peter 1:21 called them “Holy men of God”

Paul was talking to Timothy in this letter and in II Timothy giving him the qualities needed to be a good man of God. Are we a vessel that God can use?

1. **He is marked by that which he flees (verse 11):** Paul tells Timothy to flee several things. Flee in the Greek is pheugo. It is the where we get the word for fugitive. A fugitive is somebody who is on the run constantly or in preparation of running. The child of God must flee from things too. The love of money is one that Paul warned Timothy of. He didn't want material possessions to get in the way of worship. Another thing to flee from is youthful lusts. In Mark 10, the young rich ruler's story is given. He was told to keep the commandments and to sell all he had, give it to the needy, and to follow Christ. Christ rebuked him because his riches consumed him. Our “stuff” gets in the way of our Christian walk.
2. **He is marked by that which he follows after (verse 11):** There are qualities to follow after that he gives to Timothy. To follow means to pursue after. Righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness are the qualities that he gives. There are two things to notice about following after:
  - a. **It is not enough to flee certain things if we aren't pursuing the right things.** What are you pursuing in your life? Christ said in Matthew 6:33 *“But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.”* When is the last time we said “God, here am I; use me”?
  - b. **If the right things do not occupy our hearts, the wrong things will.** Paul said in Philippians 4:8 *“Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.”* Virtue in this scripture means good moral character. King Solomon said Proverbs 23:7 *“For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he: Eat and drink, saith he to thee; but his heart is not with thee.”*
3. **He is marked by that for which he fights (verse 13):** We must choose the battles we fight. Paul told Timothy to fight the good fight of faith. Don't compromise. Stand on the principles of God. Jude 3 says

“Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.” We fight four battles in our generation:

- a. **We are fighting against those who deny the infallibility of the word of God.** Many find fault in the word of God and they will try to convince others around them that it is not true.
  - b. **Denying the existence of sin.** People don’t use the word sin. It means nothing. They come up with excuses and blame others for their faults when in all actuality it is sin.
  - c. **Immoral living.** People live how they want to live. It doesn’t matter to them what the Bible says or what the preacher says, they’ve made up their minds.
  - d. **Watered down sermons by waterlogged preachers.** We don’t want to offend anyone or make them upset. In I Timothy 6:20-21, Paul says *“O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called: 21 Which some professing have erred concerning the faith.”* Ephesians 6:10-11 says *“Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. 11 Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.”*
4. **The man of God is marked by that which he focuses on (verse 12):** “Lay hold on eternal life.” Timothy is already saved, so Paul is telling him to keep his eye on Christ. Keep his mind on what is to come after death. We should push forward knowing that our salvation is eternal. In Colossians 3:1-2 Paul says *“If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. 2 Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.”* Paul tells Timothy to focus on something better. That something is Jesus. There is an old hymn titled “Turn Your Eyes upon Jesus” by Helen H. Lemmel. It says *“Turn your eyes upon Jesus, Look full in His wonderful face, And the things of earth will grow strangely dim, In the light of His glory and grace.”*
5. **The man of God is marked by that to which he is faithful (verse 14):** There are things which we should be faithful to. They are:
- a. The uncompromised word of God
  - b. The importance of being in church and endeavoring to do its work.
  - c. The importance of a strong relationship with Jesus Christ.

What marks are in your life? Is our heart tattooed with the word faithful? Do we show the works of a faithful servant?