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Introduction

Getting right with God is the beginning of the Christian life. Staying right with God requires daily surrender, spiritual discipline, obedience, and dependence on the Holy Spirit. Every believer is engaged in a spiritual battle.

(1 Timothy 6:12) *"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."*

Question

- What is more difficult coming to Christ or remaining faithful to Him? Why?

1. The Christian Life Is a Fight

(1 Timothy 6:12) *"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."*

Notice: Paul does not tell Timothy to relax.

- He tells him to **fight**.
- The Christian life is not a playground.
- It is a battlefield.

Everyday believers fight:

- *Temptation*
- *discouragement*
- *compromise*
- *worldly influences*
- *spiritual attacks*
- *The desires of the flesh*

Faith must be defended.

Question

- What battles do Christians commonly face today?
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2. Know Your Enemy

A. The Flesh

(Galatians 5:16–17) So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.

¹⁷ For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh.

They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want.

- The sinful nature constantly battles against God's Spirit.

Examples include:

- anger
- lust
- Pride
- selfishness
- unforgiveness

- jealousy

The flesh never improves.

It must continually be crucified.

(Galatians 5:24) Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

Notice: Not Everybody

- "Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh."
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B. The World

(1 John 2:15–17)

On Not Loving the World

¹⁵ Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in them. ¹⁶ For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—comes not from the Father but from the world. ¹⁷ The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever.

The world offers:

- Pleasure without God.
 - Success without holiness.
 - Popularity without truth.
 - Comfort without commitment.
 - Believers must resist adopting worldly values.
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C. Satan

(1 Peter 5:8–9) Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. ⁹ Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings.

Satan seeks opportunities to destroy believers.

His weapons include:

- lies
 - fear
 - temptation
 - accusation
 - distraction
 - discouragement
 - Jesus has already defeated Satan, but believers must remain alert.
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3. Stay Close to God

(James 4:8) "Come near to God and He will come near to you."

- Distance from God never happens overnight.
- It happens one compromise at a time.

Signs that someone is drifting:

- Prayer becomes optional.
 - Bible reading stops.
 - Worship becomes routine.
 - conviction fades.
 - sin becomes easier.
 - Church attendance becomes less important.
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4. Guard Your Heart

(Proverbs 4:23) "Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it."

The heart determines:

- *Your decisions*
- *Your words*
- *your relationships*

- *your priorities*

Protect your heart from:

- *bitterness*
 - *Pride*
 - *unforgiveness*
 - *immoral influences*
 - *negative voices*
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5. Put on the Whole Armor of God

Ephesians 6:10-18

Paul describes the believer's spiritual armor.

Belt of Truth

- Know God's Word.

Breastplate of Righteousness

- Live in obedience.

Shoes of Peace

- Walk in God's peace.

Shield of Faith

- Reject doubt and fear.

Helmet of Salvation

- Protect your mind.

Sword of the Spirit

- Fight with Scripture.

Prayer

- Prayers activate everything.
- Without prayer the armor becomes ineffective.

6. Daily Habits That Keep Us Right with God

1. Pray Daily

(Luke 18:1) The Parable of the Persistent Widow

18 Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up.

- Prayer strengthens our relationship with God.

2. Read God's Word

(Psalm 119:11) I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.

- God's Word protects us from sin.

3. Confess Sin Quickly

(1 John 1:9) If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

- Don't allow sin to remain.
- Repent immediately.

4. Worship Regularly

- Worship keeps our hearts centered on God.

5. Fellowship with Believers

(Hebrews 10:24–25) And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, ²⁵ not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

- Isolation weakens faith.
 - Healthy fellowship strengthens faith.
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6. Obey What God Says

(James 1:22) Do not merely listen to the word and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.

- Knowledge without obedience produces spiritual weakness.
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7. Keep Your Eyes on Jesus

(Hebrews 12:1-2) Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, ²fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

- Jesus is our perfect example.
 - We run with endurance by keeping our eyes on Him—not on people or circumstances.
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8. Remember the Reward

(Revelation 2:10) "Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you life as your victor's crown."

- Faithfulness has eternal rewards.
 - Every battle endured is worth it.
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Discussion Questions

1. What spiritual battle do you fight most often?
 2. Which enemy (the flesh, the world, or Satan) challenges you the most?
 3. What spiritual habits have helped you stay close to God?
 4. Why is repentance essential for every believer?
 5. What part of God's armor do you need to strengthen?
 6. What practical change can you make this week to stay right with God?
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Application

This week:

- Spend intentional time with God every day.
 - Memorize one Scripture to use against temptation.
 - Remove one influence that pulls you away from God.
 - Pray before making important decisions.
 - Encourage another believer in their walk with Christ.
 - Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal areas where you need repentance and renewed obedience.
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Memory Verse

(Galatians 5:16) *"So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh."*

Conclusion

Remaining right with God is not about earning salvation—it is about walking faithfully with the One who saved you. Victory comes not through human strength but through daily dependence on Christ. Every day, choose to surrender your heart, renew your mind with God's Word, resist the enemy, and walk in the power of the Holy Spirit. As Paul declared in **(2 Timothy 4:7)**, *"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith."* May that be the testimony of every believer.

Closing Prayer

"Father, thank You for saving us through Jesus Christ. Help us to fight the good fight of faith with courage and perseverance. Strengthen us by Your Holy Spirit to resist temptation, overcome the schemes of the enemy, and remain faithful to Your Word. Guard our hearts, renew our minds, and teach us to walk in holiness every day. May our lives honor You until the day we see You face to face. In Jesus' name, Amen."