



FIGHT THE GOOD FIGHT

1 TIMOTHY 6:12

JULY 6-9 | 2018 SUMMER CAMP

His Students
Totally His

What do you think of when
you hear the phrase
“Fight the Good Fight”?



Overview of the Weekend

- **Friday pm** - What is the fight? THE FIGHT
- **Saturday am** - Who is in the fight? THE FIGHTER
- **Saturday pm** - What vices (dangers) must you avoid in the Fight? THE FLEE
- **Sunday pm** - What virtues (orders) must you pursue in the Fight? THE FOLLOW
- **Monday am** - What do we know about the end of this fight of faith? THE FINISH

Big Idea

In light of our allegiance to the Commander in Chief of the Universe, we must commit to daily **fight** the good fight of faith as faithful soldiers called out by God who know what to **flee** from and what to **follow** closely understanding the victory is ours in Christ.

Overview of 1 Timothy

- 1 of 3 pastoral letters
- Written by Paul while in prison
- Timothy was Paul's spiritual son who was given the responsibility to lead the church in Ephesus.
- This letter is full of counsel from the older Paul to the younger Timothy on church leadership, importance of prayer, proper worship, role of women, qualifications for leaders, confronting false teachers, materialism, and...
- Personal holiness, priority, purpose, identity for living a life worthy of imitation.

The Fight

What is this fight?

1 Timothy 6:12

Session #1

The Bible presents our life on this earth as one lived in a spiritual war.

- Hebrews 12:4 - war (struggle) against sin
- 1 Peter 2:11 – internal war in our own souls
- Jude 3 – contending (struggling) for the faith
- 2 Tim 2:3 –soldier for the gospel
- 2 Cor 6:7 – spiritual weapons of the believer
- Eph 6:12 – battle against the spiritual forces of evil
- 2 Tim 4:7 –fought the good fight, finished the race
- 2 Cor 10:3-4 – waging war with divine power



Distant memory?

What would be the
opposite of living in the
midst of a fight, or
warfare?



“Spiritual Retreat is Spiritual Defeat”

-David Platt

What are ways your faith is attacked?

Discuss with those around you...

An overview of the spiritual warfare we face...

- The **enemy** is frightening (intimidating)
- The **environment** is universal (everywhere)
- The **engagement** is inevitable (everyone)
- The **effects** are eternal (permanent, forever)

Are you even aware that
you're at war? Does this
thought determine how
you live and make choices
each day?

Fight (agonizomai)

-engage in intense struggle





Fight
the good fight
of faith





FIGHT THE GOOD FIGHT

1 TIMOTHY 6:12

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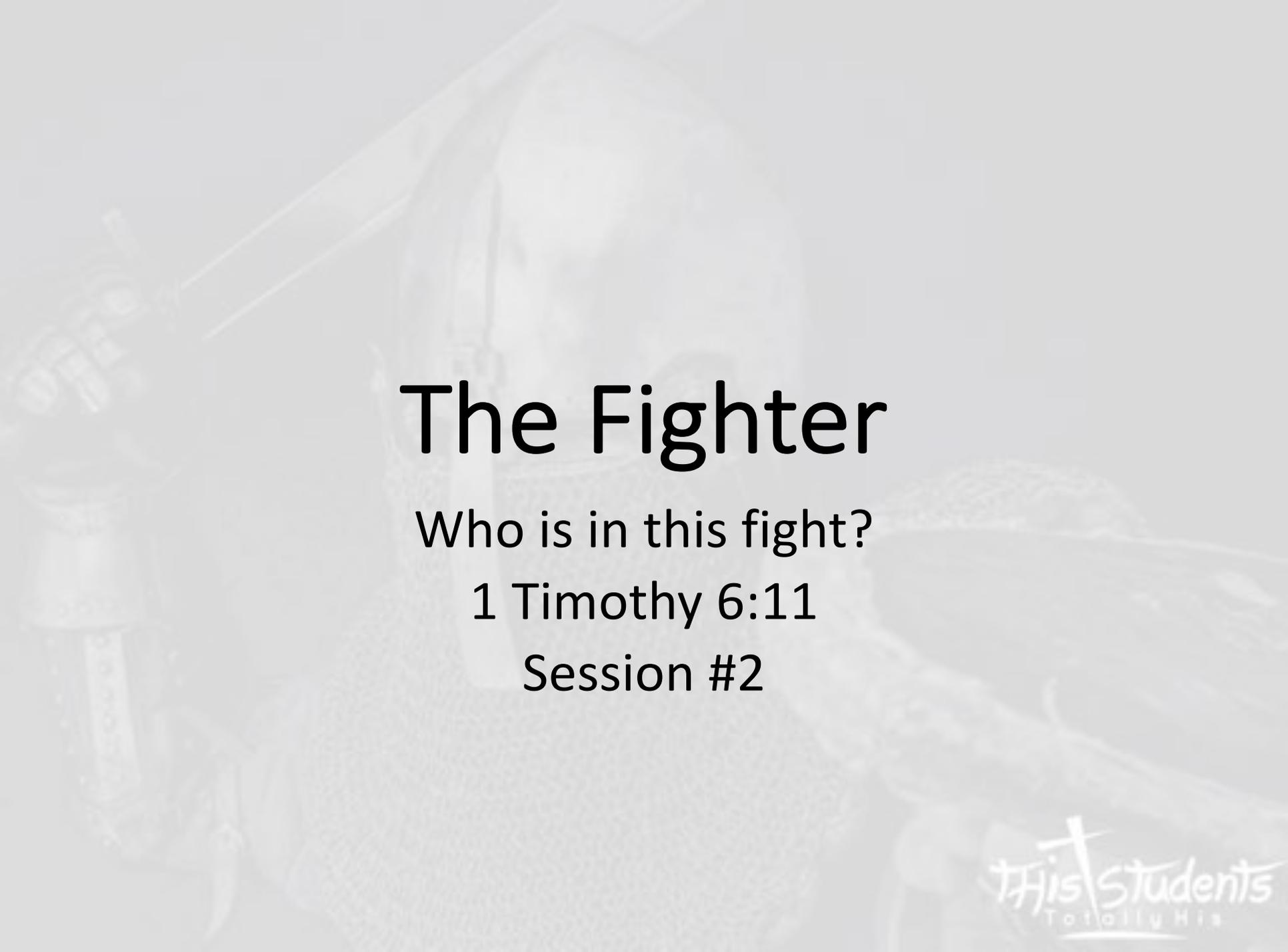
His Students
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Review

The Fight

1 Timothy 6:12

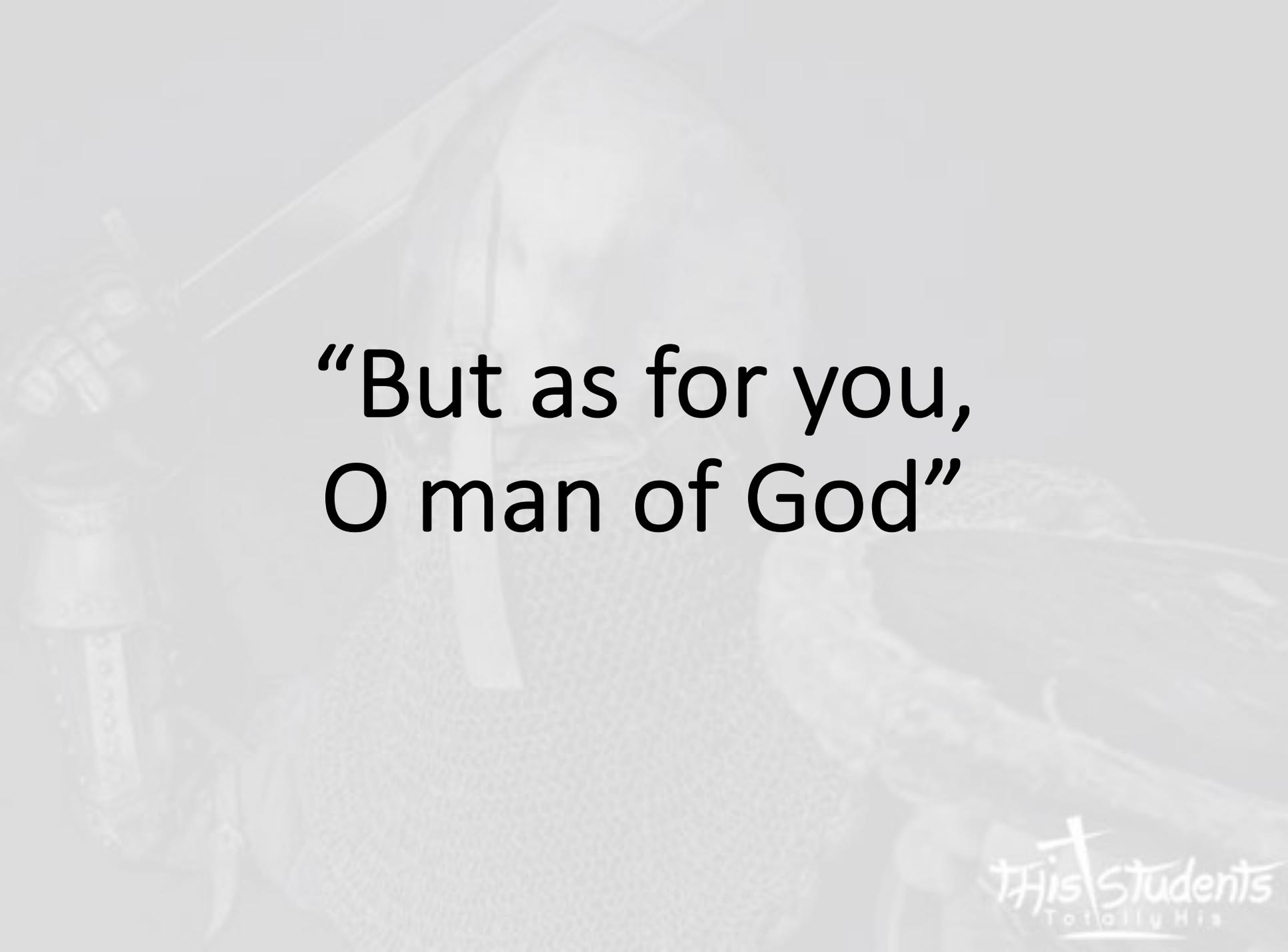


The Fighter

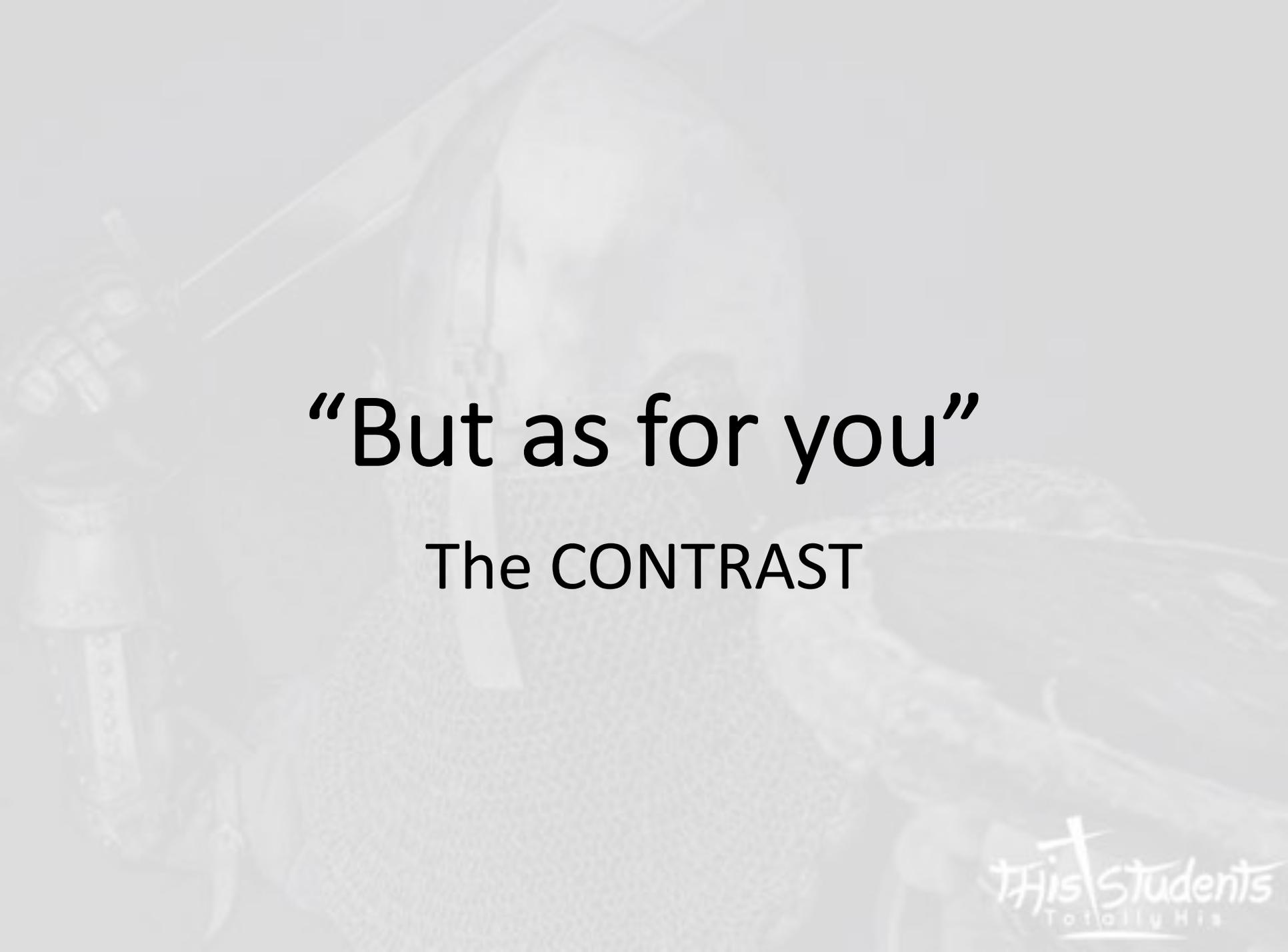
Who is in this fight?

1 Timothy 6:11

Session #2

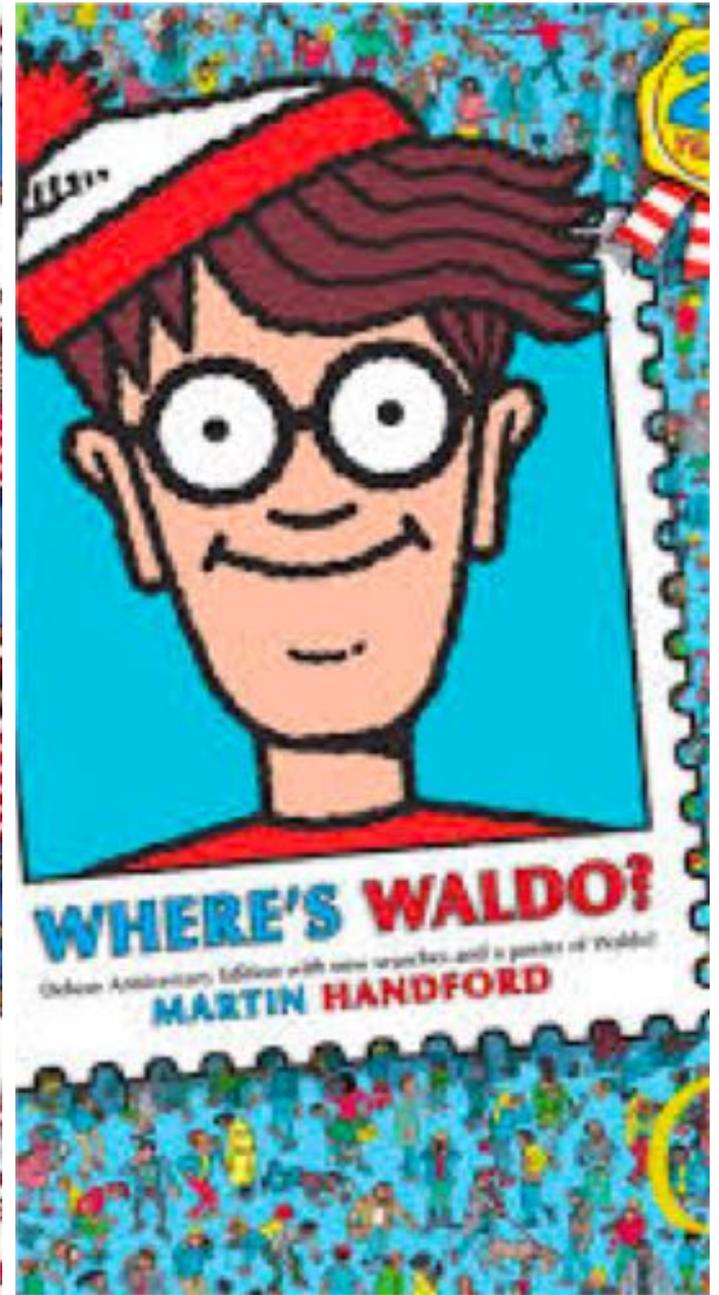


“But as for you,
O man of God”



“But as for you”

The CONTRAST



The Example of Paul

The CONTRAST

seen in 1 Tim 1:12-20

Then once more you shall
see the distinction
between the righteous and
the wicked, between one
who serves God and one
who does not serve him.

Malachi 3:18



Do not be conformed to
this world, but be
transformed by the
renewal of your mind...

Romans 12:2

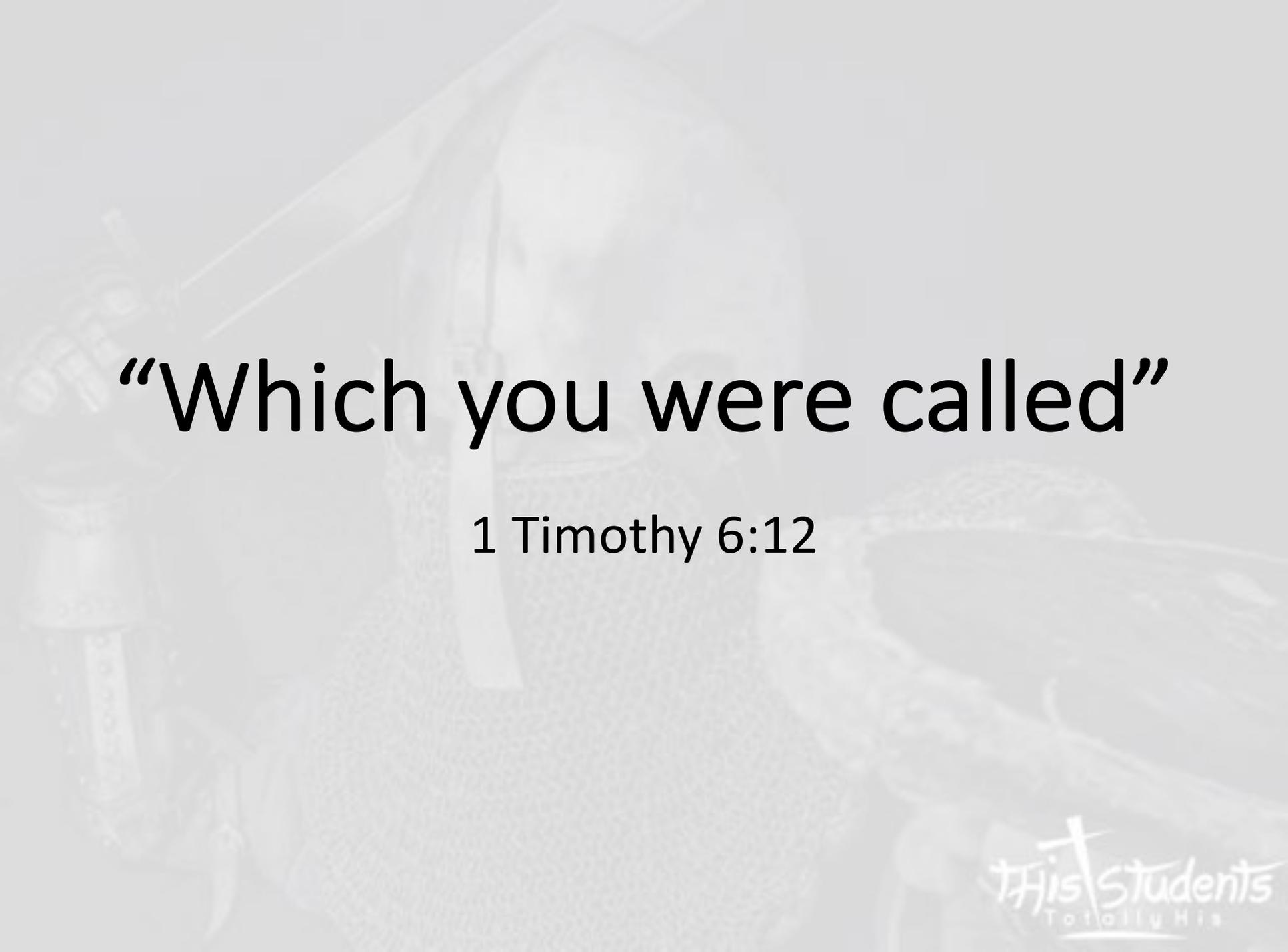
Does your life demonstrate
a clear **contrast** to the
ungodly world around you?

What are some titles we
use as Christians in
relationship to God?

Discuss with those around you...



“O Man of God”



“Which you were called”

1 Timothy 6:12

The fact that God calls you
is incentive for you to
respond in obedience

John 15:16

“the prize of the high
calling of God in Christ
Jesus”

Phil. 3:14

The one who calls...

1 Timothy 6:15-16

The God who calls...v 15-16

- Blessed
- Only Sovereign
- King of Kings
- Lord of Lords
- Alone has immortality (can not die)
- Dwells in unapproachable light
- No one has ever seen or will see

Your view of the
commander will determine
how you fight in the battle.

Do you know your commander?



Review

The Fight. The Fighter.

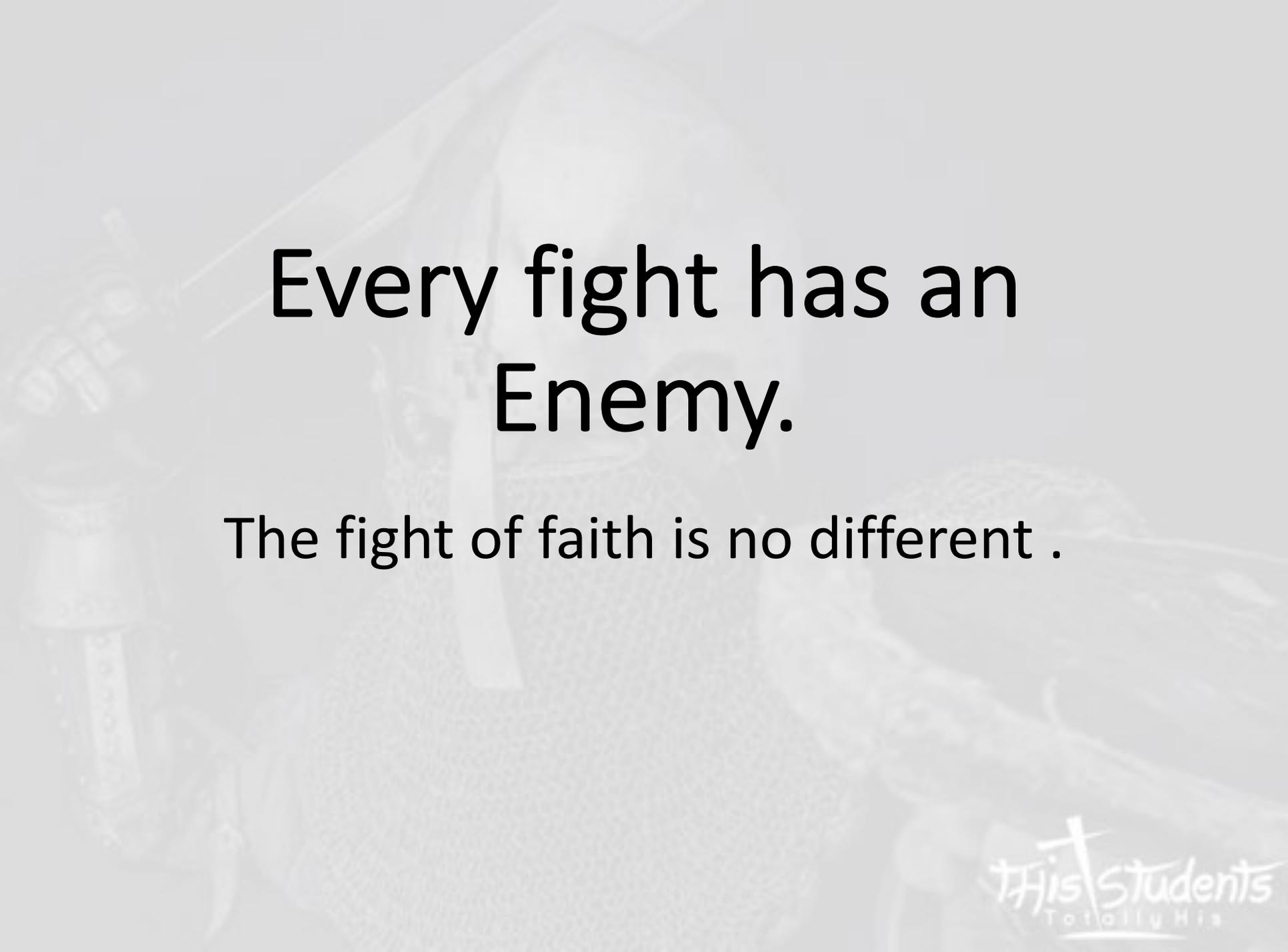
1 Timothy 6:11-12

The Flee

What vices must you avoid in the fight?

1 Timothy 6:11

Session #3



Every fight has an Enemy.

The fight of faith is no different .

Beware. Satan aims to devour by...

-1 Peter 5:8

- Defame God's glory
- Distort God's gospel
- Destroy God's people

“Flee these things”

1 Timothy 6:12



We will not flee from sin
until we are convinced of
the danger of sin.



Flee these things...(6:3-10)

- Flee teaching that diminishes the person and work of Christ (3)
- Flee pride and petty arguments(4)
- Flee divisive talk (4,5)
- Flee hypocritical religion (5)
- Flee materialism (8-10)

“Flee youthful passions”

2 Timothy 2:22

“Flee from idolatry”

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

Consider 3 different ways we should run from evil...

- Run from sinful actions
- Run from sinful desires
- Run from sinful thoughts

*The fight of faith is not just
running from something,
but running to someone
and pursue what he tells us
to pursue...Following Him.
We will look at that aspect
of the fight tomorrow
night...*

Follow

What virtues must you pursue in the fight?

1 Timothy 6:11

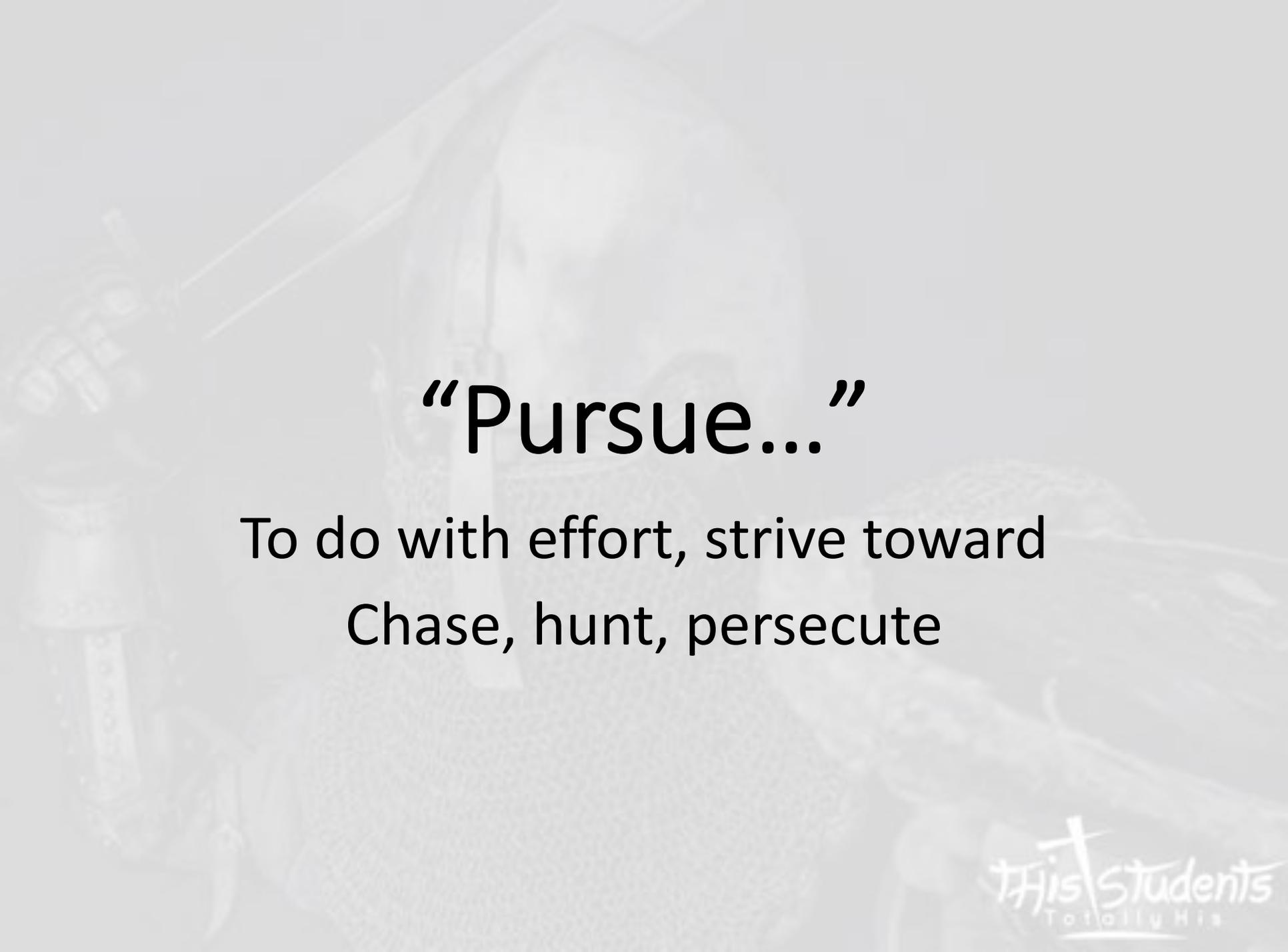
Session #4

The Fight of Faith is a Fight to Believe

- Believe His Word
- Believe His Goodness
- Believe His Presence
- Believe His Control
- Believe His Promises

*It is not enough that you
flee these things, but you
also must follow after
Jesus.*





“Pursue...”

To do with effort, strive toward
Chase, hunt, persecute

Pursue these things ...

- Righteousness
 - Obedience to a set standard (God's)
 - A life or lifestyle in conformity to justice, law, or morality **as given by God**
 - Right living among others in relationship to God
 - Jesus is the only way to receive perfect righteousness (justification)

Pursue these things ...

- Godliness

- In pagan literature, it meant proper caution to the gods
- In reference to the one true God, it means active obedience & personal devotion.
- Jesus is the ultimate example
- Warning against a false godliness

Pursue these things ...

- Faith

- Belief, trust in God
- Hebrews 11
- The staggering amount of times Jesus speaks of faith...

- Mt 6:10 When Jesus heard this, he marveled and said to those who followed him, "Truly, I tell you, with no one in Israel have I found such **faith**."
- Mt 9:2 And behold, some people brought to him a paralytic, lying on a bed. And when Jesus saw their **faith**, he said to the paralytic, "Take heart, my son; your sins are forgiven."
- Mt 9:22 Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, "Take heart, daughter; your **faith** has made you well." And instantly the woman was made well.
- Mt 9:29 Then he touched their eyes, saying, "According to your **faith** be it done to you."
- Mt 15:28 Then Jesus answered her, "O woman, great is your **faith**! Be it done for you as you desire." And her daughter was healed instantly.
- Mt 17:20 He said to them, "Because of your little **faith**. For truly, I say to you, if you have **faith** like a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move, and nothing will be impossible for you."
- Mt 21:21 And Jesus answered them, "Truly, I say to you, if you have **faith** and do not doubt, you will not only do what has been done to the fig tree, but even if you say to this mountain, 'Be taken up and thrown into the sea,' it will happen."
- Mt 23:23 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe the mint and dill and cummin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and **faithfulness**. These you ought to have done, without neglecting the others."
- Mk 2:5 And when Jesus saw their **faith**, he said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven."
- Mk 4:40 He said to them, "Why are you so afraid? Have you still no **faith**?"
- Mk 5:34 And he said to her, "Daughter, your **faith** has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease."
- Mk 10:52 And Jesus said to him, "Go your way; your **faith** has made you well." And immediately he recovered his sight and followed him on the way.
- Mk 11:22 And Jesus answered them, "Have **faith** in God."
- Lk 5:20 And when he saw their **faith**, he said, "Man, your sins are forgiven you."
- Lk 7:9 When Jesus heard these things, he marveled at him, and turning to the crowd that followed him, said, "I tell you, not even in Israel have I found such **faith**."
- Lk 7:50 And he said to the woman, "Your **faith** has saved you; go in peace."
- Lk 8:25 He said to them, "Where is your **faith**?" And they were afraid, and they marveled, saying to one another, "Who then is this, that he commands even winds and water, and they obey him?"
- Lk 8:48 And he said to her, "Daughter, your **faith** has made you well; go in peace."
- Lk 17:5 The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our **faith**!"
- Lk 17:6 And the Lord said, "If you had **faith** like a grain of mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you."
- Lk 17:19 And he said to him, "Rise and go your way; your **faith** has made you well."
- Lk 18:8 I tell you, he will give justice to them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will he find **faith** on earth?"
- Lk 18:42 And Jesus said to him, "Recover your sight; your **faith** has made you well."
- Lk 22:32 but I have prayed for you that your **faith** may not fail. And when you have turned

Pursue these things ...

- Love

- A strong non-sexual affection and regard for a person and their good as understood by God's moral character; especially characterized by willingly giving up rights or privileges on behalf of another person.

*When you grow in
your understanding of his love for
you, you will grow in your love
for Him, and then you will grow in
your love for others.*

*We ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers, as is right, because your **faith** is growing abundantly, and the **love** of every one of you for one another is increasing. ⁴ Therefore we ourselves boast about you in the churches of God for your **steadfastness** and **faith** in all your persecutions and in the afflictions that you are enduring.*

2 Thessalonians 1:3-4

Pursue these things ...

- Steadfastness

- “won’t quit” determination in the face of opposition to the gospel.
- Inner quality of endurance
- 2 Timothy 3:10

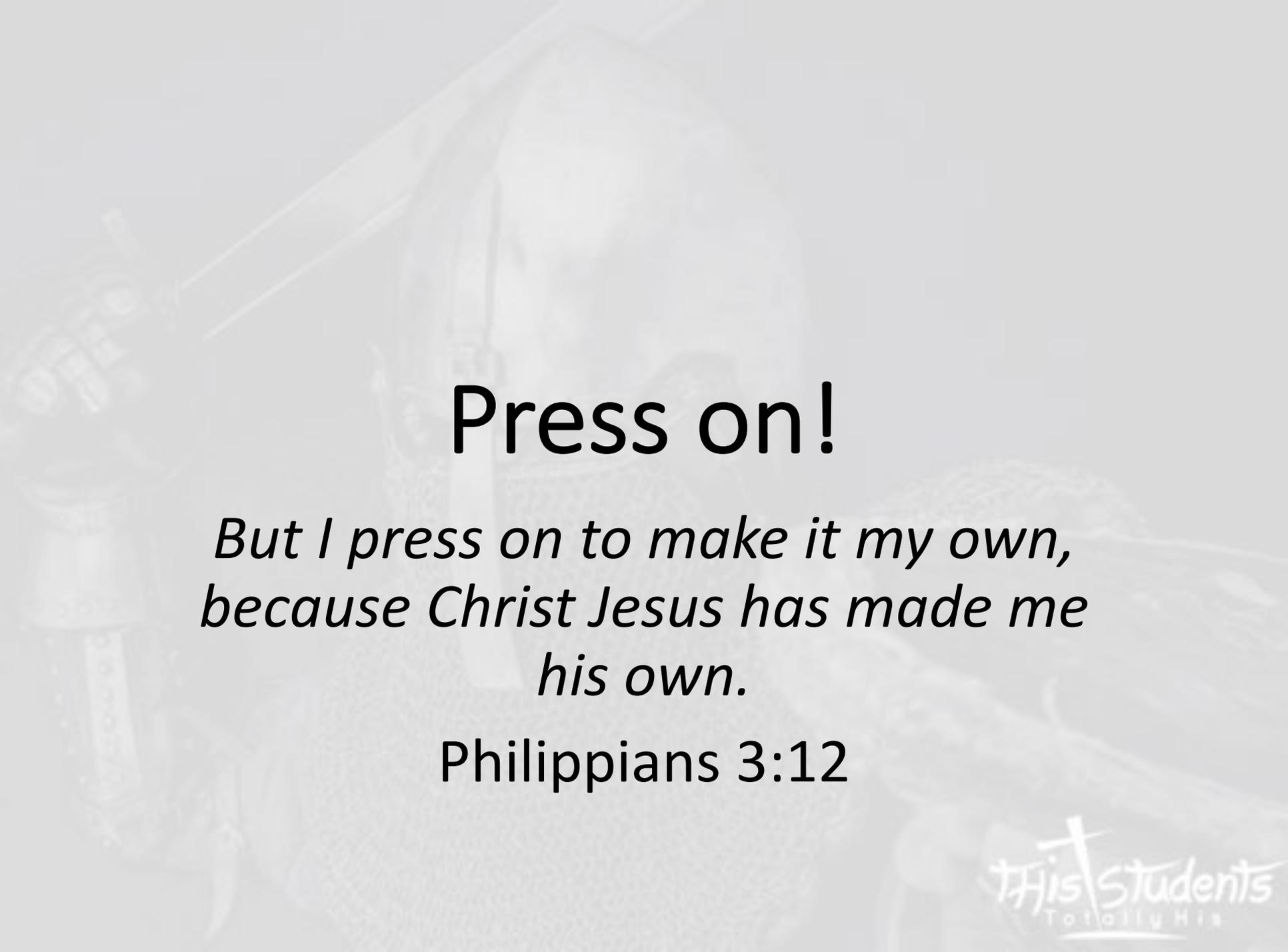
Pursue these things ...

- Gentleness
 - Kindness toward difficult people
 - Not being harsh
 - Gentle strength
 - Humble

“We are simply to run from evil as we run from danger, and to run after goodness as we run after success. That is, we have to give our mind, time and energy to both flight and pursuit.”

John Stott





Press on!

*But I press on to make it my own,
because Christ Jesus has made me
his own.*

Philippians 3:12

The Finish

What do we know about the end of the fight?

1 Timothy 6:12-14

Session #5

“Take Hold of the Eternal Life”

Or in 6:19 – “Take hold of that
which is truly life.”

*Did we in our own strength confide,
our striving would be losing;
Were not the right Man on our side,
the Man of God's own choosing:
Dost ask who that may be?
Christ Jesus, it is He;
Lord Sabbaoth, His Name,
from age to age the same,
And He must win the battle.*

A Mighty Fortress by Martin Luther

And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. ⁷ It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. ⁸ For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. ⁹ And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, ¹⁰ so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, ¹¹ filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

Phil 1: 6-11

