



Wednesday, January 27, 2021

MAKE A QUIET COMMITMENT:

- QUIET your mind and soul before the LORD — *“Be still, and know that I am God”* (Psalm 46:10)
- COMMIT to obedience: *Commit* to doing whatever God will say to you in this message — *“to obey is better than sacrifice”* (1 Samuel 15:22)

Being FIT to play a sport, run a race, and compete to the best of your ability had a lot of parallels to the Christian life. Paul describes the life of a Christian using the metaphor of an athlete.

2 Timothy 2:5 And if a man also strive for masteries [*contend as an athlete*], yet is he not crowned [*victorious*], except he strive [*contends*] lawfully [*according to the rules*].

Cf. Hebrews 12:1-2; 1 Corinthians 9:24-27

I. Our _____: *“meet for the Master’s use”* (2 Timothy 2:21b)

Something that is “fit” is appropriate or qualified. As a synonym for the word “meet” it is something that is prepared or ready. It speaks of usefulness for a purpose.

2 Timothy 2:16-17 But shun profane [*irreverent*] and vain [*useless*] babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness. **17** And their word will eat as doth a canker [*cancer*]: of whom is Hymenaeus and Philetus;

II. Our _____: “*purge himself from these*” (2 Timothy 2:21a)

Paul tells Timothy to “*purge himself.*” – This carries the idea of cleansing thoroughly from defilement.

Proverbs 25:4 Take away the dross from the silver, and there shall come forth a vessel for the [re]finer.



What influences are in your life that are harming your spiritual growth and in turn your usefulness for Christ?

Ephesians 4:22-24 [*the result will be*] That ye put off concerning the former conversation [*the ways of*] the old man [*unregenerate self*], which is corrupt [*decaying*] according to the deceitful [*deceiving / seducing*] lusts [*strong desires*]; **23** And be renewed in the spirit of your mind [*having a fresh mental and spiritual attitude*]; **24** And that ye put on the [*ways of*] new man [*the new self in Christ*], which after **God** is created in righteousness and true holiness [*this is the process of restoring the created likeness*].

III. Our _____: “*follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace*” (2 Timothy 2:22)

Notice the word “*with.*” Note the community mindedness/ the fellowship of this verse. Our pursuit is “*with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart.*” This is a call to join ourselves with those who have a Godly influence—those who are likeminded—those with similar pursuits.

Philippians 3:12 Not as though I had already attained [*arrived being a grace graduate*], either were already perfect [*full spiritual maturity*]: but I follow after [*pursue with a consuming passion*], if that I may apprehend [*lay hold on or seize*] that for which also I am apprehended [*seized*] of Christ Jesus.

1 Timothy 6:11 But thou, O man of **God**, flee these things [*the love of money and all that goes with it*]; and follow after [*pursue with a consuming passion*] righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness.


A. Pursue _____


B. Pursue _____


C. Pursue _____

D. Pursue _____

The questions that we must ask ourselves is:

 “What are the influences of my life?” What are the corrupting influences that I must intentionally “*flee*” from?

 What steps do I need to intentionally take in order to “*follow after righteousness, faith, love, and peace*”?

 How am I utilizing my community of believers to help me in my fitness for Christ? How am I helping my community of believers be fit for His use?

What Is My Next Step?

Hearing — Giving *attention* to God's Word with the intent to obey it — James 1:21-25

Doing — Making *application* of God's Word to be more like Christ — Ephesians 4:22-24

Date: _____ Text: _____ Speaker: _____

1. What did God show **me** that **I** must confess and forsake because it does not reflect Christ and hurts **my** relationship with Him and others? (**Put OFF SIN**)
2. What did God show **me** about Himself in this text? (**Renew your mind**)
 - a. What is He like?
 - b. What does He like?
 - c. What does He dislike?
3. What does God say to me in this text? (**Renew your mind**)
 - a. What command to obey?
 - b. What promise to claim?
 - c. What principle to apply (*If I do _____, then God will do _____*)?
 - d. What example to follow?
4. What verse(s) should **I** memorize and meditate upon through-out this week to help make **my** change lasting? (**Renew your mind**)
5. In light of what **I** have heard from God, ... (**Put ON CHRIST**)
 - a. What character quality of Jesus must **I** demonstrate *with God's help* this week?
 - b. In what situations will **I** most likely be tempted not to respond in a Christ-like way?
 - c. How can **I** get ready for those situations? (*If I don't have a plan for change, it probably won't happen.*)



OUR MISSION: Supremely love GOD,
Sacrificially love others
—ALL to the GLORY of GOD!