

I HAVE FAITH FOR THIS!

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The Good Fight Of Faith/Faith In The Storm

(Part 3 of a 8 part series)

Do you have a story or testimony to share? Email us at stories@hillsong.co.za

INTRODUCTION

In a world brimming with uncertainty and challenges, faith becomes our anchor and guide. Throughout this series, we will explore the profound impact of understanding what faith is, why it is important and how we can operate in it. Drawing inspiration from scripture and the powerful biblical stories, personal testimonies, and practical teachings, together, we will delve into what it means to possess unwavering faith, how to cultivate it in the face of adversity, and the extraordinary outcomes that faith can bring.

Join us as we embark on this spiritual journey, deepening our trust in God's promises and discovering the boundless possibilities that arise when we declare, "**I have faith for this.**"

We believe this series will:

- Equip our church to live lives of great faith.
 - Teach our church how faith is the currency of the Kingdom of God.
 - Empower people to activate faith in their lives.
 - Challenge people to live expectant for the blessing, favour and power of Jesus in every area of their lives.
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KEY VERSE

1 Timothy 6:12

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."*

DISCOVERY

1 Timothy 6:12, is a letter from the Apostle Paul to Timothy, his young protégé, that provides guidance on how to lead and teach the church. Paul encourages Timothy to remain steadfast in his faith, despite the challenges he might face. In this study, we will explore what it means to "fight the good fight of faith," how this call relates to our personal struggles, and how faith can sustain us through life's storms.

Key Themes:

- The nature of the spiritual battle.
- The concept of eternal life and its implications for our present life.
- Practical ways to maintain faith during trials.

DISCUSSION

Starting Question:

Can you think of a time when you felt you were in a spiritual battle or facing a difficult situation? How did your faith play a role in that experience?

How does the idea of eternal life impact how you handle challenges in your life today?

Exploring Questions:

1a. 1 Timothy 6:12 (NIV): *“fight the good fight of faith”*

The “good fight” is the ongoing struggle to live out the teachings of Christ and remain faithful amidst opposition and trials. It involves perseverance in the face of difficulties, standing firm in belief, and living a life that reflects Christ’s love and righteousness. It’s a battle with significant spiritual implications and eternal consequences, making it a worthy endeavor for believers.

What does Paul mean by "fight the good fight" in 1 Timothy 6:12, and how should this influence your daily life today?

1b. 1 Timothy 6:12: *“Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses.”*

Paul urges believers to actively embrace and live out the promise of eternal life they have been called to through faith in Jesus Christ. The phrase “take hold of the eternal life” means more than mere acknowledgment; it involves living in a way that reflects the reality and significance of this promise. This eternal life is both a present reality and future hope offered to all believers. The reference to “when you made your good confession” points to a public declaration of faith, such as baptism, which signifies a commitment to Christ. The phrase “in the presence of many witnesses” underscores the communal nature of this commitment, emphasizing the importance of accountability and support from the Christian community.

How can you actively "take hold" of the promise of eternal life in your daily life, and what changes might this bring to how you live out your faith in the presence of others?

Actions Questions:

Hebrews 12:1-2 (NIV) *“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, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith.”*

This passage highlights the need for endurance and focuses on Jesus as the example of faith.

What are some specific areas in your life where you need to rely more on faith?

Reflect on current challenges and identify how a deeper trust in God might change your approach or response to these issues.

How can you support others who are facing their own storms?

Think about how you can be a source of encouragement and support for friends or family members who are struggling. How can your own experience of faith be a testimony to others?

DEVOTION

Take some time to reflect on your personal “good fight” and how the promise of eternal life influences your perspective on current challenges.

Share specific instances where you’ve seen God’s faithfulness in your life.

Prayer focus:

- Spend a few moments in prayer asking God for strength and perseverance in your spiritual journey.
- Pray for clarity and courage to face your personal storms with faith.
- Ask for guidance on how you can better support others in their struggles.

Prayer: "Lord, thank You for the promise of eternal life and the assurance that You are with us through every trial. Help us to fight the good fight of faith with courage and perseverance. Strengthen us in our struggles and guide us to be a source of hope and support for others. May we live out our faith boldly, reflecting Your love and grace in every situation. Amen."