

THE GOOD FIGHT OF FAITH

I Timothy 6:12 – “Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.”

- “**fight**” [2x]
 - **The first word** – to enter a contest.
 - **The second word** – a contest for a prize.
- “**good**”
 - **KALOS** – Good as can be seen outwardly.
 - **Wuest** – “Be **constantly** engaged in the contest of the faith, which contest is marked by its **beauty of technique**.”
- “**faith**”
 - **Hebrews 11:1** [AMP] – “Now faith is the assurance – the confirmation, the title deed – of the things we hope for, being the proof of things we do not see and the conviction of their reality – faith perceiving as real fact what is not revealed to the senses.”
 - **II Corinthians 1:19, 20** [Goodspeed] – “The Son of God, Christ Jesus, Whom we proclaimed among you, Silvanus, Timothy and I, you have not found wavering between ‘Yes’ and ‘No’. With Him it has always been ‘Yes’, for all the promises of God He supplies the ‘Yes’ that confirms them. That is why we utter the ‘Amen’ through Him when we give glory to God.”
 - **Richards**: “Faith, which is rooted in the heart, is never an attempt to make something come to pass or come into being. It is always based on accomplished facts.”

Faith – serious but not supposed to be difficult.

- **Hebrews 4:11** [AMP] – Let us therefore be zealous and exert ourselves and strive diligently to enter that rest [of God, to know and experience it for ourselves], that no one may fall or perish by the same kind of unbelief and disobedience [into which those in the wilderness fell].
- **Matthew 11:29, 30** [AMP] – Take My yoke upon you and learn of Me, for I am gentle (meek) and humble (lowly) in heart, and you will find rest ([relief and ease and refreshment and recreation and blessed quiet] for your souls. ³⁰ For My yoke is wholesome (useful, good—not harsh, hard, sharp, or pressing, but comfortable, gracious, and pleasant), and My burden is light and easy to be borne.

My testimony:

- **People hit these impasses** and (1) give up; (2) decide the message is flawed; (3) decide they'll never get there; (3) change their heart beliefs.
 - **Proverbs 23:7** [AMP] – *For as he thinks in his heart, so is he. As one who reckons, he says to you, eat and drink, yet his heart is not with you [but is grudging the cost]. [I.e., the GATEKEEPER will not admit even Bible principles that are foreign to our heart beliefs.]*
- **Re-developed my devotional life & confession.**
 - **Confession:** to persuade your heart or from a believing heart.
 - **Boundaries book:** “When the mind has been renewed to an accurate and precise knowledge of what Jesus has accomplished through His death, burial and resurrection; when our heart has been fully persuaded with the facts, confession i.e. saying or acknowledging this truth, will become a harmonious, natural expression of truth.”

Matthew 18:18 [AMP] – *Truly I tell you, whatever you forbid and declare to be improper and unlawful on earth must be what is already forbidden in heaven, and whatever you permit and declare proper and lawful on earth must be what is already permitted in heaven.* **Wuest** – *Assuredly, I am saying to you, Whatever you forbid on earth, shall have already been forbidden in heaven. And whatever you permit on earth, shall have already been permitted in heaven.*

- **Boundaries book:** “Binding and loosing is when we declare something to be lawful or unlawful in our life, or our world, based on what has previously been accomplished in heaven. On this side of the cross, we have to make that determination based on the death, burial and resurrection. Doing it in faith is when there is harmony between that which has been accomplished in heaven, what is in our heart, and what is in our mouth.”
- **Jesus' prayer** [Matthew 6] – *“Father, ... Your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.”*