**God’s Design for the Church (1 Timothy)**

**Onward Christian Soldiers (1 Timothy 6:11-16)**

**Recap:**

* **Finish Chapter 1**
* **Finish Chapter 2**
* **Finish Chapter 3**
* **Finish Chapter 4**
* **Finish Chapter 5**
* **Living as Servants Part 2 (1 Timothy 6:1-2)**
* **Fan the Flame (1 Timothy 6:3-5)**
* **Stand Firm (1 Timothy 6:6-10)**
  + **Godliness and Contentment Keep Us Eternally Focused**
  + **Godliness and Contentment Helps us to live Simply**
  + **Godliness and Contentment helps us to recognize the dangers of desiring wealth.**
* **1 Timothy 6:11-16**
* **As believers, we are called to flee from harmful influences, fight for our faith, and hold fast to the truth. Today let us explore how we can strive to be “men and women of God” who persevere in our walk with Christ.**

1. **Flee or Retreat (v. 11)**
   1. **Distance himself from harmful influences.**
   2. **Pursue:**
      1. **Righteousness: the quality of being morally right or justified**
      2. **Godliness: quality or practice of conforming to the laws and wishes of God.**
      3. **Faith: complete trust and confidence in God.**
      4. **Steadfastness: Unwavering, firmly planted**
      5. **Gentleness: quality of being kind, tender and mild-mannered.**
2. **Fight the Good Fight (v. 12)**
   1. **Of the Faith. Standing Firm against false teachings and worldly temptations.**
   2. **Take hold of the Eternal Life to which you were called.**
   3. **And about which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.**
3. **Keep the Commandment (vv. 13-16)**
   1. **Paul reminds Timothy of his confession of faith before many witnesses.**
   2. **He charges Timothy to remain faithful until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ**
   3. **The passage concludes with a beautiful doxology acknowledging God’s sovereignty and eternal dominion.**

**Conclusion:**

1. **Flee or Retreat**
   1. **Galatians 6:16-26**
   2. **1 John 2:15: If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.**
2. **Fight the Good Fight.**
   1. **2 Timothy 4:7-8**
   2. **I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award me on the Day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.**
3. **Keep the Commandment.**
   1. **John 18:33-38** 
      1. **Pilate’s inquiry was not answered in words, but Truth says bound and embodied before him.**
      2. **Some have held that this question from Pilate’s was asked in scorn.**
      3. **His conduct through the trial shows he was deeply impressed; it is probable that the question was asked from a deep curiosity to hear more.**
   2. **John 14:6: Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.**

* **We must persevere, we must strive for godliness and we must strive for fidelity in our calling. Flee and Retreat, Fight for our Faith and hold fast to the truth. May we stive to be the “men and women of God” who persevere in our walk with Christ.**