

Life Endurance Policy

2 Timothy 4:5-7

Introduction:

- A. Taking out a life insurance policy
 - 1. Two kinds – w_____ life and t_____ life
 - 2. You set the a_____
 - 3. For it to take effect, you must d_____.
- B. Taking out a life endurance policy
 - 1. It takes effect as you l_____ (2 Tim 4:5-7)
 - 2. Jesus came to give us a_____ life (Jn 10:10), but we must choose to make the most of our life His way.

Emphasize your ob _____ not your ob _____ (vv. 5,6)

- A. Timothy
 - 1. What obstacles did Timothy face? (opposition; little r_____)
 - 2. What obligations was he to focus on?
 - a. Keep a clear m_____ (don't allow obstacles to cloud your thinking; metaphor of being sober).
 - b. E_____ hardship (don't allow obstacles knock you down).
 - c. Share the g_____ (although opposed, do not focus on results; focus on sharing)
 - d. Fulfill your m_____ (service to God)
- B. Paul
 - 1. What obstacle was he facing? – poured out as a d_____ offering.
 - a. This is a picture of an Old Testament s_____ where the entire jar of wine was poured out.
 - b. This refers to his upcoming execution by N_____ for being an apostle and preacher of Christ.
 - 2. What obligation was he focusing on?
 - a. He was w_____ this letter to Timothy.
 - b. He continued to s_____ (v. 13)
 - c. He continued working with others in m_____ (v. 12)
- C. You
 - 1. What obstacles are you facing?
 - a. You must a_____ the obstacles, but don't emphasize them.
 - b. Examples: rebellious kids; financial struggles; marital issues; time pressures.
 - 2. What does God want you to do in face of the obstacles?
 - a. You must fulfill your obligations in a g_____ way.

- b. Examples: parenting God's way; handling money God's way; building your marriage God's way; handling stress God's way.

Emphasize your fai_____ not your fai_____ (v. 7)

- A. Three things Paul emphasized that we must emphasize
 - 1. F_____ the good fight
 - a. The Greek word is where we get our word a_____.
 - b. Doing what God wants you to do in life will be a struggle, but it is a g_____ one.
 - c. Fight in being a godly parent, steward, spouse, etc.
 - 2. F_____ the course
 - a. The emphasis is not on how fast or slow one runs but about getting to the f_____ line.
 - b. Look for p_____ in your parenting, stewardship, marriage, etc. not perfection.
 - c. Don't ever g_____.
 - 3. F_____ - The idea is faithfulness (NLT – *I have remained faithful*).
 - a. Did Paul ever fail? (see Acts 15:36-40) – he had such a sharp disagreement with Barnabas over taking Mark on their missionary journey that they s_____ up.
 - b. 2 Tim 4:11 – Paul saw Mark as v_____ to him for service.
- B. How are believers in Christ to deal with failures?
 - 1. God f_____ us of all our failures and buries them with Christ (Jer 31:34; Rom 6:4).
 - 2. Our response
 - a. A_____ God's forgiveness (resurrecting our sins is saying God's forgiveness is insufficient)
 - b. L_____ from past failures so as not to repeat them so that you can progress in your life.

Conclusion:

- 1. The t_____ comes only to steal, kill, and destroy things in our lives (Jn 10:10a). but Jesus came to give us life that is overflowing with meaning (Jn 10:10b)
- 2. Don't let the thief in! Let Jesus in!
 - a. Acknowledge the obstacles but emphasize your godly obligations.
 - b. Acknowledge your failures, accept God's forgiveness, and emphasize your faithfulness.