

*Flee the evil desires of youth, and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart. 2 Timothy 2:22 (NIV)*

## **Flee, Pursue, Call**

**Do you want to flee evil? Do you want to pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace? Do you want to be able to call on me out of a pure heart?** Yes, I want all these things. I will flee evil and pursue you. I want to live a life that is filled with faith and love and peace. I want to call on you out of a pure heart. How can I do all these things? How can I be successful? Is there some secret? Is there a proper approach? What technique must I employ? **Those are good questions. And yes, there is a secret and proper approach, that involves some technique. You didn't expect me to say that did you?** No, not really. But you have my full attention, I'm listening carefully. **That's good. Here goes. You must react quickly. Your fleeing evil must be immediate. You will never have the strength to linger around evil. You must run with all your effort, at top speed, as if a gun has gone off to start a race. Run forward. Run straight and do not look back. Got it? I got it. That is only the first part of what you must do if you want to live a life that is pleasing to me. Next as you are fleeing evil, you must pursue righteousness, faith and love, and peace. You will run away from evil to what is good. You will leave the world and all its evil far behind you. You will pursue the new life that I have for you. You will pursue things of the Spirit rather than the things of the flesh. Do you understand?** Yes, I understand. **Finally, after you have fled evil and are now pursuing righteousness, you must call on me. You must draw near to me. You must come into my presence. You must live in an intimate relationship with me. You must hold on to me as I hold on to you. Am I being clear?** Yes, you are being quite clear. I will flee evil, pursue righteousness, and call on you. All these, I must do at the same time. All these, I must do continually throughout my entire life. Then I will be able to live a life that is pleasing to you. **Yes, you will.** This is what I will do. **That will be very good.** Thank you, Lord.

*Lord, I will flee the evil desires of youth. Instead, I will pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace along with all those who call upon you out of pure heart. Help me to fully live the life that you have called me to live. Help me to be the person you want me to be. Amen*

**The Virtuous Life** *Pursue Righteousness*

Flee the evil desires of youth, and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

NIV 2 Timothy 2:22

**The Virtuous Life** *Pursue Righteousness*

So flee youthful passions and pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace, along with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart.

ESV 2 Timothy 2:22

**The Virtuous Life** *Pursue Righteous Living*

Run from anything that stimulates youthful lusts. Instead, pursue righteous living, faithfulness, love, and peace. Enjoy the companionship of those who call on the Lord with pure hearts.

NLT 2 Timothy 2:22

**The Virtuous Life** *Pursue Righteousness*

Flee also youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

NKJV 2 Timothy 2:22

**The Virtuous Life** *Pursue Righteousness*

Shun youthful passions and pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace, along with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart.

NRSV 2 Timothy 2:22

**The Virtuous Life** *Run After Mature Righteousness*

Run away from infantile indulgence. Run after mature righteousness—faith, love, peace—joining those who are in honest and serious prayer before God.

MSG 2 Timothy 2:22

**The Virtuous Life** *Pursue Righteousness*

Shun youthful lusts and flee from them, and aim at and pursue righteousness (all that is virtuous and good, right living, conformity to the will of God in thought, word, and deed); [and aim at and pursue] faith, love, [and] peace (harmony and concord with others) in fellowship with all [Christians], who call upon the Lord out of a pure heart.

AMP 2 Timothy 2:22

**The Virtuous Life** *Stay Close To Anything That Makes You Do Right*

Run from anything that gives you the evil thoughts that young men often have, but stay close to anything that makes you want to do right. Have faith and love, and enjoy the companionship of those who love the Lord and have pure hearts.

TLB 2 Timothy 2:22

**The Virtuous Life** *Pursue Righteousness*

Now flee from youthful lusts and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart.

NASB 2 Timothy 2:22

**The Virtuous Life** *Try Hard To Live Right*

But run away from the evil young people like to do. Try hard to live right and to have faith, love, and peace, together with those who trust in the Lord from pure hearts.

NCV 2 Timothy 2:22

# Pursue Righteousness

Year \_\_\_\_\_ Week \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**The Virtuous Life** – 2 Timothy 2:22

**In Context:** *Read 2 Timothy 2*

**Begin With Prayer:**

***Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.***

**Meditating On God's Word:** ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

Flee the evil desires of youth, and pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart. 2 Timothy 2:22 (NIV)

**Considering The Words:** ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

Flee the evil desires | of youth, | and pursue righteousness, | faith, love, and peace, | along with those | who call on the Lord | out of a | pure heart. 2 Timothy 2:22 (NIV)

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**Praying The Scripture:**

***(What prayer from your heart will you write?)***

Lord, I will flee the evil desires of youth. Instead, I will pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace along with all those who call upon you out of pure heart. Help me to fully live the life that you have called me to live. Help me to be the person you want me to be. Amen

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**What It Means:** ***(What questions speak to your heart?)*** *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

**What must you be on guard against to make sure that evil desires are not fed and allowed to grow in you?**

How quickly must you flee evil if you do not want to be ensnared and entrapped by it?

**Why must fleeing evil, pursuing righteousness, and calling on the Lord, be joined together in one effort?**

How is taking God's word deep into your heart and mind and life helping you to flee evil?

How is meeting with God in His word helping you to pursue righteousness and call on the Lord?

What are you now praying for as you call on the Lord out of a pure heart?

**How is drawing near to God and calling on Him helping you to pursue faith, love, and peace?**

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**Living It Out:**

***(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)***

Immediately flee the evil desires of youth and pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace as you call on the Lord.

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**Seeing It Happen:**

***(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)***

Have faith that the Lord will help you to flee evil and pursue righteousness as you love, follow, and serve Him.

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**Get Ready To Share:**

***(What can you share with others from your heart?)***

Share with another person or your small group how you are feeling evil and pursuing righteousness.

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**Close With Prayer:**

***Quiet Yourself Before The Lord***

*Pause And Offer Prayers Of...*

*With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You*

Adoration... \_\_\_\_\_

Thanksgiving... \_\_\_\_\_

Confession... \_\_\_\_\_

Intercession... \_\_\_\_\_

Petition... \_\_\_\_\_

**Journal**

*As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord*

**What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?**

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**What Prayers Are You Praying Today?**

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**Prayer Of Blessing**

*(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)*

*May you flee evil and pursue righteousness as you call upon the Lord.*

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**Prayer To Carry**

*(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)*

*Lord, I will flee evil and pursue righteousness as I call upon you.*

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**What Do You Want To Remember About Today?**

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**A Question To Ask God**

*(What Would You Like To Ask God?)*

*Lord, how can I flee evil and pursue righteousness today as I call upon you?*

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