

*For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time has come for my departure. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day--and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing. 2 Timothy 4:6-8 (NIV)*

## **Finish Strong**

**What will help you to fight hard, run fast, and finish strong as one of my followers?** That is a very good question. **Do you have an answer?** I know what won't help me to fight hard, run fast, and finish strong as your follower. **What's that?** A strong will and determined effort based on my own will power and strength will not help me. **Why is that?** I am weak. I may have the best of intentions. I may have the strongest of desires. I may make the firmest commitment and clearest resolution. But without your power and strength, I will certainly fail in fighting hard, running fast, and finishing strong. **Why is that?** I will face strong head winds. The world, my own flesh, and even the devil and all his evil will rise up and bring storms against me. I may be blown off course. I might be stuck in a rut. I may be stopped dead in my tracks. Without your help, I will certainly become discouraged, depressed, and defeated. Only you can keep me moving forward. Only you can empower me to fight hard, run fast, and finish strong. **It is wise that you know this to be true. It has never been my intent that you live your life under your own power and strength. You have my spirit living and dwelling inside of you. I will spur you on. I will strengthen you. I will lift you up. I will keep you from becoming discouraged, depressed, and defeated. Will you rely on my help? Will you ask me for what you want and need? Will you be fully devoted to me? Will you live in an intimate relationship with me? Will you keep your heart and mind and life focused on me? Will you long for my appearing? Will you pour yourself out in serving me?** Yes Lord, I will. **Then you will surely have everything you need from me to fight hard, run fast, and finish strong.** Thank you, Lord.

*Lord, I will fight hard and run fast so that I can finish strong as your follower. I will keep my heart and mind and life focused on you as I long for your appearing. Help me to live a life that is a bold and bright witness for you. Help me to live without any regrets. Amen*

## The Virtuous Life

*Fought The Good Fight*

For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time has come for my departure. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day--and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

NIV

2 Timothy 4:6-8

## The Virtuous Life

*Fought The Good Fight*

For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that Day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.

ESV

2 Timothy 4:6-8

## The Virtuous Life

*Fought The Good Fight*

As for me, my life has already been poured out as an offering to God. The time of my death is near. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, and I have remained faithful. And now the prize awaits me—the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give me on the day of his return. And the prize is not just for me but for all who eagerly look forward to his appearing.

NLT

2 Timothy 4:6-8

## The Virtuous Life

*Fought The Good Fight*

For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.

NKJV

2 Timothy 4:6-8

## The Virtuous Life

*Fought The Good Fight*

As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

NRSV

2 Timothy 4:6-8

## The Virtuous Life

*Run Hard*

You take over. I'm about to die, my life an offering on God's altar. This is the only race worth running. I've run hard right to the finish, believed all the way. All that's left now is the shouting—God's applause! Depend on it, he's an honest judge. He'll do right not only by me, but by everyone eager for his coming.

MSG

2 Timothy 4:6-8

## The Virtuous Life

*Fought The Good Fight*

For I am already about to be sacrificed [my life is about to be poured out as a drink offering]; the time of my [spirit's] release [from the body] is at hand *and* I will soon go free. I have fought the good (worthy, honorable, and noble) fight, I have finished the race, I have kept (firmly held) the faith. [As to what remains] henceforth there is laid up for me the [victor's] crown of righteousness [for being right with God and doing right], which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me *and* recompense me on that [great] day—and not to me only, but also to all those who have loved *and* yearned for *and* welcomed His appearing (His return).

AMP

2 Timothy 4:6-8

## The Virtuous Life

*Fought Long And Hard*

I say this because I won't be around to help you very much longer. My time has almost run out. Very soon now I will be on my way to heaven. I have fought long and hard for my Lord, and through it all I have kept true to him. And now the time has come for me to stop fighting and rest. In heaven a crown is waiting for me, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give me on that great day of his return. And not just to me but to all those whose lives show that they are eagerly looking forward to his coming back again.

TLB

2 Timothy 4:6-8

## The Virtuous Life

*Fought The Good Fight*

For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith; in the future there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all who have loved His appearing.

NASB

2 Timothy 4:6-8

## The Virtuous Life

*Fought The Good Fight*

My life is being given as an offering to God, and the time has come for me to leave this life. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Now, a crown is being held for me—a crown for being right with God. The Lord, the judge who judges rightly, will give the crown to me on that day—not only to me but to all those who have waited with love for him to come again.

NCV

2 Timothy 4:6-8

# Fought The Good Fight

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

**The Virtuous Life** – 2 Timothy 4:6-8

**In Context:** *Read 2 Timothy 4*

**Begin With Prayer:**

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

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

For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time has come for my departure. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day--and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing. 2 Timothy 4:6-8 (NIV)

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

For I am already | being poured out | like a drink offering, | and the time has come | for my departure. | I have fought the good fight, | I have finished the race, | I have kept the faith. | Now there is in store for me | the crown of righteousness, | which the Lord, | the righteous Judge, | will award to me on that day | --and not only to me, | but also | to all who have | longed for his appearing. 2 Timothy 4:6-8 (NIV)

**Praying The Scripture:** ***(What prayer from your heart will you write?)***

Lord, I will fight hard and run fast so that I can finish strong as your follower. I will keep my heart and mind and life focused on you as I long for your appearing. Help me to live a life that is a bold and bright witness for you. Help me to live without any regrets. Amen

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

What work has the Lord given you to faithfully do for Him?

**How have you been investing your time, talents, and resources into serving the Lord?**

How is your life serving as a faithful example for others to follow?

What sacrifices are you making so that you can most fruitfully serve the Lord?

**What will help or hinder you from fighting the good fight and finishing the race that is before you?**

Why is it critically important for you to fight hard, run fast, and finish strong as a follower of Christ?

**How are you keeping your heart and mind and life focused on the Lord as you love, follow, and serve Him?**

**Living It Out:** ***(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)***

Keep your heart and mind and life focused on the Lord as you serve Him and long for His appearing.

**Seeing It Happen:** ***(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)***

Have faith that the Lord will help you to fight hard, run fast, and finish strong as His follower.

**Get Ready To Share:** ***(What can you share with others from your heart?)***

Share with another person or your small group how you are fighting hard and running fast as a follower of Christ.

**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 fight hard, run fast, and finish strong as a follower of Christ.*

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**Prayer To Carry**

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

*Lord, how can I fight hard, and run fast as your follower today>*

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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 will you help me to fight hard and run fast as your follower?*

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