

1 Timothy
The Challenge of Being the Church
1 Timothy 4:1-16 (page 830)

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Looking to the future:

- keeps me committed to standing on the truth (4:1-6)
I need to *understand* that:
 - I am engaged in spiritual warfare
(vs 1-2; Eph 6:10-13; James 3:13-18)
 - I need to persevere in God's truth with a grateful
attitude (vs 3-6; Gen 1:28; 2:21-24; 1:29)
- motivates me to be committed to spiritual growth (4:7-10)
The *reality* of
 - eternity should motivate me to develop a godly
lifestyle (vs 7-8; 2 Peter 3:11-13)
 - the living God who saves should motivate me to keep
on course (vs 9-10; 1 Jn 2:2; 2 Cor 5:14-15; Rom 5:17)
- encourages me to set right priorities for life (4:11-16)
I should *pay attention to*:
 - my walk with Christ (vs 11-12)
 - my service for Christ (v 13-16)

Take it home...

Have you had anyone you know that has “abandoned the faith”?
Did you see it happening? What could you have done that
may have helped them stay committed to Christ? _____

Paul challenges Timothy to “train yourself to be godly” (v 7). How
are you doing this? What help do you need from others to
effectively exercise your spiritual “muscles”? Explain. _____

What are the core components listed in verse 13 that the church is
to gather around when they meet? Why do you think Paul
emphasizes these things as important and central? _____

How does the challenge to let others “see your progress”
encourage or challenge you? Do others see spiritual progress
(growth) in your life? Explain. _____

Does “looking toward the future” (having hope in the living God)
provide any motivation for you to *hold firmly to God's truth*? To
pursue your *own spiritual growth and maturity*? To *set godly*
priorities in your life? Why or why not? _____
