FIGHT FOR YOUR FUTURE By Pastor Fred Mendoza

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Introduction:

Text: 2 Timothy 4:6-8

Question: How do we fight successfully for our future—our chance of victory or success?

- A. Fight for our Future with Wisdom from God (Psalm 90:10-12)
 - 1. Wisdom to discern that we are <u>transients</u> on earth.
 - 2. Wisdom to ______ our life and live healthy.
 - 3. Wisdom to use our <u>time</u> productively.
 - 4. Wisdom to <u>balance</u> our week between work and worship (Exo. 30:8-10).
 - 5. Wisdom to fight for our prosperity without ______ (Matt. 6:31-34).
 - 6. Wisdom exemplified by Moses (Heb. 11:24-27).

B. Bloom where God has Planted us (Jeremiah 29:1, 4-14)

- 1. God is the LORD of <u>history</u>, whom we can trust wherever we are, and whatever our situation (vv. 1, 4, 10).
- 2. God who wants us to bloom in our present situation (vv. 5-7).
- 3. God who warns us against <u>false</u> prophets (vv. 8-9).
- 4. God who knows His ______ to give us hope and a future (v. 11).

C. Fight for the Security of our Eternal Future (2 Timothy 4:6-8)

- 1. This is Paul's personal <u>eulogy</u>.
- 2. This is Paul's summarized <u>testimony</u>.
- 3. Applied to us,
 - a. If you don't <u>choose</u> your future, you have no future to fight for.
 - b. Your future is what you <u>make</u> it, as you follow Christ.

- c. Your future is your God-given <u>life</u> mission and vision.
- d. Pursue your life mission and vision with <u>eternity</u> in view.
- e. Your future is as bright as God's <u>promises</u> to you.
- f. Remember, "Only one <u>life</u> t'will soon be past, only what's done for Christ will last."

Conclusion:

TABLETALK STARTERS (For family devotions and Life Group discussions)

Read: 2 Timothy 4:6-8

- 1. What pattern of living does Apostle Paul inspire you to apply to your life from this passage?
- 2. How does Paul encourage you to fight for your temporal (earthly) and your eternal (heavenly) future?

Read: Jeremiah 29:1, 4-14

- 3. How does this passage that God is the Lord of history, who rules and overrules in the affairs of man, give you the reason to entrust your life to God?
- 4. What do you think is God's plan for you, whatever your present situation might be (vv. 10-14)?

Read: Matthew 6:25-34

- 5. The three basis worries of people everywhere are about **food** (what to eat), **fashion** (what to wear), and about the **future** (the uncertainties of tomorrow).
- 6. How did Jesus address their worries that will help you today (vv. 25-33)?