

## **FIGHT THE GOOD FIGHT OF FAITH**

**(24/05/2017 @All Saints Cathedral Nakasero)**

When I was an infant Christian, I thought Christianity was a bed of roses, bumper sticker (born again) but the more I walk the journey of Christianity, the more I realize that it is not a walk over.

Unfortunately, many believers today are not different from what I thought when I first believed.

- They think Christianity is a name tag .....
- The songs sang today.....
- Sermons on our pulpits..... Let go and let God= we do nothing, say nothing, feel nothing, and simply live, allowing circumstances to roll over us however they may.
- Christianity is like an ATM machine.....

Today I am here to remind us, inform us ... that Christianity is

1. A fight
2. A good fight
3. A fight of faith

**A fight (1 Timothy 6:11-16)**

**Paul uses active and forceful verbs to describe the Christian life. Run, Pursue, Fight, hold tightly.**

**A fight** = finish standing & with more punches given

**A race** = cross the finishing line & as number one

- Hard work ( Un necessary weights) Wake up early, deny food, climb hills etc
- Preparation is individual = you don't compete with anyone

**Christianity is likened to this = Ends with a reward**

*"From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and violent men take it by force. Mathew 11:12.*

- The Christian life is a spiritual battle which the Bible exhorts us to prepare for and wage diligently. *"Fight the good fight of faith"* (1 Timothy 6:12);
- *"Endure hardship . . . like a good soldier of Christ Jesus"* (2 Timothy 2:3); = Training and sacrifice (Integrity, purity, pleasure)
- *"Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes"* (Ephesians 6:11)
- *But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. **Always** be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have.* **1**  
**Peter 3:15 (Moslems, atheist, false teachers )**

**The fight is good**

- Our fight like other Christian disciplines directly contradicts the fighting according to the understanding of the world

(Fighting is not allowed - Namilyango rule)

- Someone has already fought the fight - Rather than a bad Friday we have a good Friday
- The good fight is Motivated by love - while we were still sinners - win the lost- change us
- ❖ We cannot look on when our families, country etc are being messed up.....but the fight must be good

### **A fight of faith**

- Not flesh and blood = Not physical (Eph 6:10-12)
  1. Do not fight your step mother
  2. Do not fight the one who gossips about you = bad fighting
  3. Do not fight the one blocking your promotion = bad fighting
- Weapons are not physical but spiritual (2 Corinthians 10:3-5)

### **What is my/your part?**

- Know your enemy and fight only him (To avoid a bad fight)
  - Satan cannot drive God out of your life
  - Satan cannot cause you to sin/we choose to sin
  - Satan cannot tempt us beyond what we can handle
- Fight knowing that he has already lost (Colossians 2:15)
- Be sure and certain of the victory (John 16:33) (Story of Nigerian game)

- The example of Christ verse 13-14
  1. Preserve the testimony
  2. Un conditional love
  3. The word in the wilderness
  4. Glory to the father in victory
  5. Pray all the time
- Be patient in the fight (muscles might be hurting and voices saying stop). I may take more time but will eventually win.
- The harder you hit the golf ball the higher it goes
- The harder the devil hits you the higher you will go in testimony, praise and victory

## Conclusion

You are not alone;

- ❖ A cloud of witnesses Hebrews 12:1 (don't focus on negative witnesses awaiting your fall)
- ❖ Jesus is with you to the very end = Hebrews 12:2
- ❖ Paul is one of them, I have fought a good fight, I have run the race .....2Timothy 4:6-8

Everyone can fight this fight, God has given us the grace, it's never too late, and you can begin the good fight this evening..... Call out **The crown awaits**