

Becoming a Man of God: A Four-Part Men's Bible Study

In a world of shifting definitions and shallow masculinity, we need a clear, biblical vision of what it means to be a **Man of God**. Not merely a man of strength, ambition, or success—but a man who **belongs to God**, who **lives by His truth**, and who **fights for what matters most**.

This four-part Bible study is designed to equip men with the **identity, discernment, character, and courage** needed to walk faithfully with God. It draws deeply from Paul's letters to Timothy, one young man called to stand firm in a collapsing culture. Through inductive Bible study, personal reflection, and practical application, you'll be challenged to examine your heart, refine your habits, and rise up as the man God calls you to be.

What is Inductive Bible Study?

Inductive Bible study is simply a way of studying Scripture that starts with the text itself and works outward. The steps are simple but powerful:

1. **Observation** – What does the passage actually say? (Noticing words, themes, patterns, and context.)
2. **Interpretation** – What does it mean? (Understanding the message as God intended it for its original audience and for us today.)
3. **Application** – How does it apply to my life? (Identifying personal and practical steps to live out God's Word.)

Instead of relying only on secondhand explanations, inductive study teaches you to **dig deep, think carefully, and let God's Word speak for itself**. You won't just sit and hear what someone else has to say, or be spoon-fed the Scriptures. **You will discover truth for yourself—like a Man of God should.**

Series Outline

- Session 1—The Identity of a Man of God
- Session 2—The Traps a Man of God Escapes
- Session 3—The Virtues of a Man of God
- Session 4—The Man of God's Fight

Session 1—The Identity of a Man of God

Before we can live as men of God, we must first understand what that means. The Bible uses the phrase “man of God” to describe prophets, leaders, and ordinary believers who walked closely with the Lord. In this session, we’ll trace the term through Scripture, identifying what sets these men apart. You’ll discover that being a man of God isn’t about perfection—it’s about **belonging to God**, being **shaped by His Word**, and living with **holy purpose**.

I. Observation

A. Meaning of the Phrase “Man of God”

1. Literally: A man who belongs to God or a man who is from God
2. Used in both the Old and New Testaments to refer to prophets, messengers, and those devoted to God’s service
3. Applied to Timothy in 1 Timothy 6:11 and Christians generally in 2 Timothy 3:17

B. Use the references below to observe the character and calling of those referred to as “men of God.”

1. As you read each passage, ask:
 - a. Who is identified as a man of God (some will be unnamed)?
 - b. What was this man called to do?
 - c. What set him apart as belonging to God?
 - d. What qualities or actions earned him this title?
 - e. What does this reveal about what it means to be a man of God today?
2. Passages to Study:
 - a. **Deuteronomy 33:1-5**
 - b. **1 Samuel 2:27-36**
 - c. **1 Kings 17:17-24**
 - d. **2 Kings 5:7-8 (context Naaman sends a letter to the King of Israel)**
3. Write your observations below:

4. Other passages:
 - a. 1 Samuel 9:5-27 (Samuel, known and respected as a man of God and a seer/prophet)
 - b. 1 Kings 13:1-10, 11-34 (Unnamed man of God speaks against Jeroboam’s altar and then falls into disobedience himself)
 - c. Nehemiah 12:24, 36 (David is identified as a man of God)
 - d. 2 Chronicles 25:1-10 (Unnamed man of God Warned against hiring Israelite troops)

C. What do the following Scriptures say about the qualities and actions of a Man of God?

1. 1 Kings 17:24; 1 Peter 4:11

2. Micah 6:8

3. 1 Timothy 6:11

4. 1 Timothy 6:12

II. Interpretation

- A. What role does a man of God play in a world that denies God's authority?

- B. How does God equip His men for "every good work"? (cf. 2 Timothy 3:16–17)

III. Application

- A. Where in your life do you need to grow in speaking truth?

- B. How can you live more openly as someone who belongs to God?

- C. In what ways can your **work, family life, and friendships** reflect godly leadership?

- D. Who are the "men of God" you know today? What sets them apart?

Conclusion

God has always had men who were fully His—prophets, leaders, servants, and faithful disciples. Today, that same calling rests on your shoulders.

A man of God isn't defined by success, strength, or style. He is defined by **who owns him, who sends him, and what he speaks and lives**. He is set apart, not perfect. Devoted, not passive. A man of God is a vessel through whom God speaks, loves, and leads.

Let this lesson be your **starting point**. Ask yourself daily, "*Do I live as someone who belongs to God?*"

Session 2—The Traps a Man of God Escapes (1 Timothy 6:3-11)

The call to be a man of God begins with a decisive **break from the world's destructive patterns**. In 1 Timothy 6, Paul warns about false teachers, corrupt motives, and the love of money—all dangerous to the soul. After this warning, Paul calls Timothy a Man of God and gives him four commands in rapid succession:

- Flee (6:11)
- Pursue (6:11)
- Fight (6:12)
- Take hold (6:12)

This session focuses on the command to flee. Notice the definition of the Greek word translated *flee* (THEUGO):

- to seek safety in flight, flee
- to become safe from danger by eluding or avoiding it, escape
- to keep from doing something by avoiding it because of its potential damage, flee from, avoid, shun (Arndt, William et al. A Greek-English lexicon of the New Testament and other early Christian literature 2000: 1052.)

At first glance, fleeing doesn't sound like the trait of a man of God. But Scripture paints a different picture. There are real **traps and snares** that will bring a man down if he lingers near them (cf. 1 Kings 13:7–34). Whether outward temptations or inward attitudes, fleeing sin is not cowardice—it is an act of **spiritual strength**. It takes courage to turn your back on what the world pursues and run toward the safety of God.

I. Observation—Read 1 Timothy 6:3-11 and answer these questions:

A. What themes or key ideas are in this passage?

B. Notice all the connecting words (because, since, cause, therefore, etc.) in this passage. Write any observations below:

C. Notice the different ways false teachers are described in this passage (underline them if you like). Note ones you find significant:

D. List at least one observation per verse in the space below.

6:3

6:4

6:5

6:6

6:7

6:8

6:9

6:10

E. 5. From this passage make a list of everything we should flee from:

II. Interpretation

A. According to this passage, 6:18-19; 2 Corinthians 12:10; Phil 4:10-13; and Hebrews 13:5 define contentment in your own words:

1. How does contentment relate to godliness?

2. How does contentment lead to “gain”?

3. What truths help grow contentment?

B. According to this passage, what are the dangers and limitations of money (cf. Proverbs 18:10-11; 23:4-5; 30:8-9; Matthew 13:22)?

C. How can money be used in a godly way (cf. 6:18-19; Proverbs 3:9-10; Luke 12:33-34; 1 Corinthians 9:14; Ephesians 4:28)?

D. What does the command to flee teach us about our spiritual lives? (cf. 1 Corinthians 6:18; 1 Thessalonians 4:3-4; 2 Timothy 2:22)

Application

A. How does this discussion of what a man of God flees from apply to your career, lifestyle, giving, and saving?

B. In what areas of your life do you struggle to resist the things we should flee from?

C. List at least five principles from 1 Timothy 6:3-10. Remember, a principle is simply a fact or command stated or implied in the passage that is relevant to your own life.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

D. What will you do this week to implement at least one of these principles into your life?

Conclusion

Some battles are won by **standing firm**—others by **running fast**. The man of God knows when to fight and when to flee.

In this world, countless traps await the soul of a man. Greed, pride, false teaching, discontent, and moral compromise all promise gain but lead to ruin. Paul’s command is clear: **Flee from these things**.

Running from sin isn’t fear—it’s **wisdom**. It’s an act of spiritual clarity and strength. It’s a declaration that your soul belongs to God and won’t be sold to the world.

As you move forward, don’t just ask, “*What do I want?*” Ask: “*What must I run from to protect what matters most?*”

Session 3—The Virtues of a Man of God

A man of God doesn't just run *from* evil—he runs *toward* righteousness. Scripture calls us to actively pursue six traits: **righteousness, godliness, faith, love, perseverance, and gentleness**. In this passage, pursue (DIOKO) means: “to move rapidly and decisively toward an objective, *hasten, run, press on*” (William Arndt et al., *A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2000), 254)

These aren't soft virtues—they are marks of spiritual maturity and strength. In this session, we'll break down each trait and explore what it looks like to live them out in daily life. You'll be challenged to grow in areas that often go neglected and to commit to the kind of character that honors God.

I. Observation

Note what each of these verses tell us about the six traits Paul says we should pursue:

A. Righteousness

1. 1 Timothy 1:9
2. 2 Timothy 2:22
3. 2 Timothy 3:16
4. 2 Timothy 4:8
5. Titus 1:8 (just)

B. Godliness—Godliness has been a key theme in this letter (Occurs 10 times). The Greek word for “godliness” is a compound term made up of “eu” and “sebeia” = “good” and “reverence.” It is also translated piety.

1. 1 Timothy 2:2
2. 1 Timothy 2:10 (THEOSEBIA—literally: God-reverence)
3. 1 Timothy 3:16
4. 1 Timothy 4:7-8
5. 1 Timothy 6:3, 5

C. Faith (Occurs 34 times)

1. 1 Timothy 1:2
2. 1 Timothy 1:5
3. 1 Timothy 1:11-15
4. 1 Timothy 1:19-20
5. 1 Timothy 2:7

6. 1 Timothy 2:15
7. 1 Timothy 4:12
8. 1 Timothy 6:10 (the faith)
9. 1 Timothy 6:12 (the faith)
10. 1 Timothy 6:21 (the faith)

D. Love

1. 1 Timothy 1:5
2. 1 Timothy 1:14
3. 1 Timothy 2:15
4. 1 Timothy 4:12

E. Perseverance

1. 2 Timothy 3:10
2. Titus 2:2

F. Gentleness

1. 2 Timothy 2:25 (humility)
2. Titus 3:2 (humility)

II. Interpretation

1. What does it mean to pursue righteousness?

2. What does it mean to pursue godliness?

3. What does it mean to pursue faith?

4. What does it mean to pursue love?

5. What does it mean to pursue perseverance?

6. What does it mean to pursue gentleness?

III. Application

A. Which of these traits need the most growth in your life?

B. Who do you know who models these qualities well?

C. How would your family or coworkers describe your character?

D. What's one habit you can adopt this week to cultivate one of these traits?

Conclusion

Your life will be shaped by what you chase.

Every man runs after something: wealth, comfort, approval, adventure. But the man of God is called to a different race—a pursuit of **righteousness, godliness, faith, love, perseverance, and gentleness**.

These six traits don't come naturally. They must be pursued intentionally. Day after day. Step by step. And the more you run toward them, the more you become the kind of man who reflects the heart of God to a broken world.

So ask yourself: *What am I chasing?* And will it matter when I stand before the King?

Session 4—The Man of God’s Fight (1 Timothy 6:11-21)

A man of God is not passive—he is a **fighter**. But not in the way the world expects. Paul tells Timothy to “fight the good fight of the faith,” to “take hold of eternal life,” and to “guard what has been entrusted.” This final session calls us to a life of **purposeful spiritual combat**, not against people, but against sin, apathy, and compromise. You’ll be invited to examine what you are fighting *for*, and how to live with bold conviction in a world that desperately needs godly men.

I. Observation—Read 1 Timothy 6:11-21 and answer these questions:

1. What themes or key ideas are in this passage?
2. Underline all the verbs in this passage—draw a box around repeated verbs.
3. Circle all the adjectives
4. List at least one observation per verse in the space below.

6:11

6:12

6:13

6:14

6:15

6:16

6:17

6:18

6:19

6:20

6:21

Interpretation

1. How does this passage relate to the previous section in chapter 6?
2. Paul begins this passage (6:11-21) with a flurry of commands. What do each of these commands teach us about the spiritual life?
 - a. Flee
 - b. Pursue
 - c. Fight

- d. Take hold
- 3. Together these commands create a healthy balance for one's spiritual life (cf. 6:11; 2 Timothy 2:22; 1 Cor 6:18-20; 1 Peter 3:11). What can result if any of these are missing?
- 4. The adjective "good" shows up throughout this passage in 6:12, 13, 18, 19. Why might Paul use this word to describe a series of very different things here at the end of the book?
- 5. To what extent does Paul call Timothy to "keep the commandment" in verse 14? Furthermore, how do verses 13-16 provide ample motivation for such obedience?
- 6. How does generosity provide for a "good foundation for the future" (cf. Matthew 6:19-20; 1 Corinthians 3:10-15)?
- 7. In your own words, what title would you give to this section?

Application

- 1. In verse 11 and 2 Peter 1:5-9, Paul lays out a series of character qualities that we are to pursue. Which of these qualities need development in your life?
- 2. What are some practical ways that you can your hope on God this week?
- 3. List at least five principles from 1 Timothy 6:3-10. Remember, a principle is simply a fact or command stated or implied in the passage that is relevant to your own life.
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.

- d.
- e.

4. What will you do this week to implement at lease one of these principles into your life?

Conclusion

The spiritual life is not a playground—it's a **battlefield**. But not every fight is worth your energy. A man of God doesn't waste time with petty battles or worldly distractions. He fights the **good fight**—the one that leads to eternal life.

This fight is not about anger, dominance, or ego. It's about **faithfulness, truth, and eternal purpose**. It's about fighting for your soul, your family, your brothers, and the legacy of Christ in your life.

Paul's words to Timothy are now yours: "*Fight the good fight. Take hold of eternal life.*"

So grab your armor, sharpen your sword, and step into the fray—not for glory, but for **God**.

Final Thoughts

At the heart of these studies lay a simple but profound truth: **God is still calling men to be His**. Not men who blend in. Not men who are content to drift. But **men who belong to God**, who live with **conviction**, pursue **character**, and fight for what truly matters.

Being a man of God doesn't happen by accident. It requires the courage to **flee sin**, the discipline to **pursue righteousness**, and the strength to **stand firm in the fight of faith**. It means living with eternity in view, letting the Word of God shape your thoughts, values, relationships, and decisions.

You may not feel worthy of the title “man of God.” That's good. Because this is not about self-confidence—it's about **Christ-confidence**. You are not alone in this journey. The Spirit of God empowers you. The Word of God equips you. And the people of God stand beside you.

So rise up. Take your place. Be the man God made you to be.