

# The Hard Work of Godliness

1 Timothy 4:7-11

**7** Have nothing to do with irreverent, silly myths. Rather train yourself for godliness; **8** for while bodily training is of some value, godliness is of value in every way, as it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come. **9** The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance. **10** For to this end we toil and strive, because we have our hope set on the living God, who is the Savior of all people, especially of those who believe. **11** Command and teach these things.

**1 Timothy 4:7-11 (ESV)**

- Godliness has no value

**Myths that Prevent Godliness**

**18** For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth.

**Romans 1:18 (ESV)**

**6** For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. **7** For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— **8** but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

**Romans 5:6–8 (ESV)**

**11** For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, **12** training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, **13** waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ,

**Titus 2:11–13 (ESV)**

- Godliness has no value
- Faith alone saves

**Myths that Prevent Godliness**

- Godliness has no value
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- Once you are saved you are always saved

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**Myths that Prevent Godliness**

- Godliness has no value
- Faith alone saves
- Once you are saved you are always saved
- Becoming a Christian will make life/godliness/holiness/obedience easy
- Godliness has to do with how we relate to God, not our external behavior

**Myths that Prevent Godliness**

- It requires training and hard work (v. 7)

**The Truth about Godliness**

**7** Have nothing to do with irreverent, silly myths. Rather **train yourself for godliness**

**1 Timothy 4:7–11 (ESV)**

**24** Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. **25** Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. **26** So I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air. **27** But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.

**1 Corinthians 9:24–27 (ESV)**

- It requires training and hard work (v. 7)
- It is more valuable than physical fitness (v. 8)

**The Truth about Godliness**

**8** for while bodily training is of some value, godliness is of value in every way, as it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come.

**1 Timothy 4:7–11 (ESV)**

- It requires training and hard work (v. 7)
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- Everyone needs to know about its value (v. 9)

**The Truth about Godliness**



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- It requires training and hard work (v. 7)
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- Hope motivates hard work (v. 10)

**The Truth about Godliness**

**10** For to this end **we toil and strive,**  
**because we have our hope** set on the  
living God, who is the Savior of all people,  
especially of those who believe.

**1 Timothy 4:7–11 (ESV)**

**24** Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am filling up what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church... **27** to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. **28** Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ. **29** **For this I toil, struggling with all his energy that he powerfully works within me.**

**Colossians 1:24-29 (ESV)**

- It requires training and hard work (v. 7)
- It is more valuable than physical fitness (v. 8)
- Everyone needs to know about its value (v. 9)
- Hope motivates hard work (v. 10)
- Those who work for godliness have the best hope of all (v. 10)

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**10** For to this end we toil and strive, because **we have our hope set on the living God, who is the Savior of all people, especially of those who believe.**

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