

“But you, Timothy, are a man of God; so run from all these evil things. Pursue righteousness and a godly life, along with faith, love, perseverance, and gentleness.”  
1 Timothy 6:11 NLT

## lectio // 1 Timothy 6:11-16

Paul had just written about the love of money being the root of all kinds of evil and folks craving more! As a pastor/shepherd of a congregation or a local expression of the community of faith, there are two pursuits that will destroy them - power and money! Believers cannot LOVE money and generosity simultaneously. A pastor who's greed need grows above and faster than their life of giving will not only destroy their life and their leadership but many of their followers lives as well. Paul reminds Tim, which I'm sure it wasn't just for his benefit alone, to pursue other, healthy ideals: righteousness, godly life with faith, love, perseverance and gentleness. These are all anti-power, anti-greed remedies. These guard against evil AND create a LEGACY life. A life that can be lived and followed with out shadows and skeletons.

## oratio

Dad,

Early in my calling and ministry understanding, I struggled with WANTING power and money. As a young staff pastor I felt I had zero power over my own decisions and little over others. And, we were broke too! However, you were building a patience, a pattern of service - the lessor office, chair, car, house and restaurant choice! We were also rich in relationships and others were generous to us. I am grateful for the path you led us on because it opened up so many opportunities of faith and adventures we would have never imagined. Paul's advice to Timothy was correct.

## contemplatio

rest in the presence of God, allowing the words revealed to take root