

LIFE GROUP APPLICATION QUESTIONS

2 Timothy Series

These questions are for the **June 23, 2024** message, "The Word of Truth." Please read the sermon passage (2 Timothy 2:14-19) together out loud.

Passage Outline

AS WE MATURE AS PEOPLE OF GOD'S WORD . . .

1. We will keep this charge. (14)
 - a. Paul exhorts Timothy: "Keep on reminding them of the foundations."
 - i. Remember Jesus (verses 8-13).
 - ii. Relinquish your life to him, suffer for him (11), endure faithfully. (12)
 - iii. There are great consequences for ultimate rejection of Jesus.
 - b. Paul instructs Timothy, "Do not quarrel about words." No "word wars."
2. We will work for this approval. (15)
 - a. Timothy is instructed: "put forth maximum effort" in the Scriptures.
 - i. To "present yourself to God": ready for inspection.
 - ii. To labor hard after the meaning of Scripture.
 - b. Rightly dividing means, "to cut it straight." It speaks of superior quality of work.
 - i. We "get it straight," so that we can "give it straight." (R Kent Hughes)
 - ii. Work hard to see and proclaim Jesus Christ from the Scriptures.
3. We will avoid certain kinds of chatter. (16-18)
 - a. Irreverent babble takes place when we depart from the foundation of the Word.
 - i. When we add human philosophy or thinking to our interpretation of Scripture.
 - ii. When we take strong stands on peripheral issues.
 - b. This emphases does no good, destroys hearers, spreads fast, and upsets people's faith.
4. We will confidently build on one foundation. (19)
 - a. God will take care of the purity of doctrine through his church. He "knows."
 - b. Sincere teachers and servants will consecrate themselves to holy lives.

Life Group Discussion Questions

1. Based on #1, above: In what ways are you learning that "word wars" do no good for anyone? How have you failed at this in your past? How are you growing?
2. Based on #2, above: The effort that we should expend is not toward refuting false teachers, but toward apprehending and understanding the Scriptures. How could you improve at and grow in putting forth serious effort toward memorizing, understanding and communicating Scripture?
3. Based on #3, above: False teachers will be refuted by the church, both corporately and carefully. At the local level, the elders are charged with guarding doctrinal purity and confronting those who teach heresy. What do you know about the elders of our church? How do you pray for them? How does knowing that this is one of their jobs encourage you?
4. Based on #4, above: There will be false teachers that arise from the church. But the Lord knows who belongs to him. And those who belong to him live holy lives. Discuss. (Numbers 16:5)