

LIFE GROUP APPLICATION QUESTIONS

2 Timothy Series

These questions are for the **June 30, 2024** message, "In a Great House." Please read the sermon passage (2 Timothy 2:20-26) together out loud.

Passage Outline

WHEN CONFRONTING FALSE TEACHERS, WE MUST BE . . .

1. Clean. (20-22)
 - a. God reigns over a "great house" which is the 'visible' church.
 - i. In every generation there is wheat and weeds. (Matthew 13:24-30)
 - ii. In this parable, they grow together and God sorts everything out at judgment.
 - b. What it means to be clean.
 - i. This is not a way to earn salvation or God's favor.
 - ii. Clean means that we work at learning how the Scriptures reveal Jesus Christ.
 1. 2 Tim 2:15: 'rightly dividing' the Word.
 2. We "get it straight," so that we can "give it straight."
 - c. Run away from youthful passions and pursue godly character. (22)
2. Wise. (23)
 - a. The wise servant makes distinctions.
 - i. "Have nothing to do" with foolish and ignorant controversies.
 1. Foolish: those who know what God says but do whatever they want.
 2. Ignorant: those who do not know what God says and don't care.
 - ii. Entering into these quarrels often makes the problem worse.
 - b. In these cases, let your joyful devotion to the Lord's authority be your argument.
3. People of Christ's character. (24-25a)
 - a. Be 'kind to everyone.'
 - b. When you offer correction, let it be gentle.
4. Hopeful. (25b-26)
 - a. We may often believe that the false teachers simply ignore and rebel against God.
 - b. In God's sovereignty, he often uses a kind and gentle answer to confront the rebel.

Life Group Discussion Questions

1. Based on #1, above: The Lord's servant makes it our aim to understand how Jesus is revealed as our Savior and Lord throughout the Scriptures. We are called to "remember Jesus" (2 Tim 2:8) and put forth 'maximum effort' (2 Tim 2:15) to understand the Scriptures. How could you improve at understanding the Scriptures ("getting it straight")?
2. Based on #2, above: Paul instructs Timothy to "have nothing to do" with some controversies. Why is this counterintuitive? How could you improve at doing this?
3. Based on #3, above: In this passage, Paul emphasizes that we should flee and avoid controversies, or "have nothing to do" with them. But if we do enter in, we must be gentle. Describe gentleness. How can you become more gentle in Christian conversation?
4. Based on #4, above: In what way has God used a high-character, gentle person to influence you?