

A Community God Can Use 2 Timothy 2:20-26

What does a community of believers look like? Have you ever heard people ask, “What does a Christian look like? I think that is a great question but not the way it has been used in Christian circles down through the years.

1. A Community of Followers of Christ Separate from _____ Relationships.

” Partnering with those who live compromised lives always negatively affects us. It affects our character and usefulness to God.

Application Question: Why is it so important to separate from dishonorable vessels? What makes this separation so hard to do? What should the process of separation look like (cf. Matt 18:15-17, 2 Cor 5:9-13)?

2. A Community of Christ Followers Run Away From _____ Passions.

Interpretation Question: What are the youthful passions that Timothy was commanded to flee?

The word “keep away,” also translated “flee,” comes from the Greek word “phuego,” from which we get the English word “fugitive”. It is in the present tense, meaning that we must ‘continually flee’ so that we won’t get caught in these sins.

- **Being _____ is a youthful passion we must flee.**

Are you argumentative? Do you always have to win arguments?

- **Being _____ is a youthful passion we must flee.**

Impatience is a characteristic of youth, but patience is a characteristic of the aged. If we are going to be used greatly by God, we must flee impatience and learn how to wait on God and others. Every person God used greatly had to wait: Abraham, Joseph, Moses, Jesus, and even Paul.

- **Selfish _____ is a youthful passion we must flee.**

Spiritual immaturity manifests itself in trying to make our name great; while spiritual maturity manifests itself in trying to make God’s name great and edify others. Are you fleeing selfish ambition?

- **_____ is a youthful passion we must flee.**

Are you fleeing sinful passions?

3. A Community of Christ Followers Pursue _____ - _____ Character..

The word “pursue” can also be translated “to run after” or even “to persecute.”

- **We must pursue _____.**

Righteousness refers to right behavior in conformity with God’s Word. It includes various deeds that both honor God and others like giving, sharing the gospel, ministering to the hurting, teaching God’s Word, etc. It also includes right thinking which ultimately leads to right action. If we are going to be used by God, we must pursue righteousness.

- **We must pursue _____.**

- **We must pursue _____.**

Love is the Greek word “agape”—referring to God’s love. This is not a love hindered by the limits of our emotions. It is a decisive love—an act of the will.

- **We must pursue _____.**

As much as it depends on us, we must seek to live at peace with others (Rom 12:18).

Are you pursuing peace or holding grudges?

Application Question: Which godly character trait is the most difficult one for you to develop and why?

4. A Community of Christ Followers Must Pursue Christ _____.

Proverbs 13:20 says, “The one who associates with the wise grows wise.” Proverbs 27:17 says, “As iron sharpens iron, so a person sharpens his friend.”

We can’t become godly on our own; we need to be surrounded by brothers and sisters who are fighting to be pure as well. They pray for us, hold us accountable, encourage us, and even help train us.

5. A Community of Christ Followers Will Choose _____ Over Being Served.

When God looks for a person to use, he finds somebody who serves. Selfish people focus on serving their own needs and not that of God or others.

- Servants _____ their Master.
- Servants are _____.
- Servants _____.
- Servants must not be _____.
- Servants must be _____ to others.
- Servants must _____ in God.

Conclusion

We Must Separate from Ungodly Relationships

We Must Flee Evil Passions

We Must Pursue Godly Character

We Must Pursue Godly Relationships

We Must Become Servants