

## **Distracted by Speculation**

**Series:** Distracted (message 1) **Date:** November 7/8, 2020

Intro

### **1 Timothy 1:1–4**

As the leaders go, so goes the congregation.

#### **I. LEADERSHIP IS ACCOUNTABLE TO CHRIST FIRST.**

- Hebrews 13:17
- 1 Timothy 5:19–20
- We can be distracted by speculations or be good stewards.

#### **II. DON'T GET DISTRACTED.**

- Don't get distracted by a different gospel.
  - Creation
  - Fall
  - Redemption
  - Consummation
- Don't get distracted by speculations!
- How do we discern the truth?
  - Deuteronomy 19:15
  - Matthew 18:16
  - It is theological and logical.
  - God said that every truth will eventually be exposed.

#### **III. DON'T GET DISTRACTED FROM THE GOSPEL.**

- Is something distracting you?
- Is a false teacher attracting you?

# sermon discussion

---

## OPENING DISCUSSION

As you start your group time today, take a few moments to share two or three things you are grateful for from this past week. Challenge your group members to take time every day to write down 3-5 things they are thankful for and then thank God, the giver of all good things.

## GROUP DISCUSSION

1. As a kid, who did you look up to as a role model? Why did you want to be like that person?
2. **Read 1 Timothy 1:1-4, 1 Corinthians 4:17, 2 Timothy 1:2-4, and Philippians 2:19-22.** What do you learn about Paul's relationship with Timothy from these passages?
3. Paul and Timothy were partners in ministry, but they also had a mentor/mentee relationship. Paul mentored Timothy early on in his ministry. Do you have a Paul or a Timothy in your life, someone who has mentored you in your spiritual growth or someone you are mentoring? Describe what that relationship is like and why you are invested in it.
4. Are church leaders more accountable to the people who attend the church or to the Lord? How does your answer impact your willingness to submit to church leaders or follow their direction? (See Hebrews 13:17 & 1 Timothy 5:19-20 for two related passages.)
5. In what areas can churches or Christians can get sidetracked (or "devoted" as vs 4 says) to the wrong things?
6. Do you and your friends or family get caught up in fruitless discussions that distract you from the essentials of the faith or create unnecessary divisions and dissension? If yes, describe.
7. When you or others get fixated on the wrong things, how can you focus them back on the gospel and help them live a life of faith that honors God?

## PRAYER

## MEMORIZE SCRIPTURE

*Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you. Hebrews 13:17*