

Sermon Notes 9/25/22

## “The Lord’s Servant”

How can we be faithful servants of the Lord?

1. Avoid useless \_\_\_\_\_.

2 Timothy 2:14

2 Timothy 2:23

2. Share God’s word \_\_\_\_\_.

2 Timothy 2:15

2 Timothy 2:24-25

3. Turn away from \_\_\_\_\_.

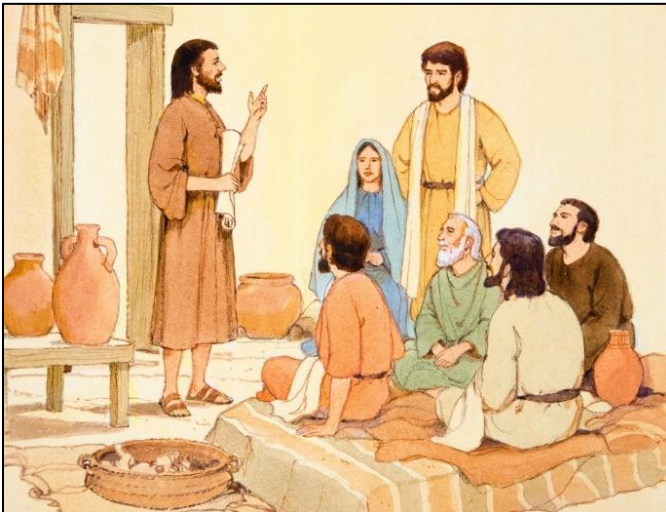
2 Timothy 2:19

2 Timothy 2:26

4. Pursue God’s \_\_\_\_\_.

2 Timothy 2:22

2 Timothy 2:20-21



*“And the Lord’s servant must not quarrel; instead, he must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful.” -2 Timothy 2:24 (NIV)*

# Life Group Discussion Questions

Week 4: September 25

2 Timothy 2:14-26

We often think of servants as being in low positions of disgrace and dishonor. However, Jesus “did not come to be served but to serve” (Mark 10:45). And when we come to Christ and accept Him as our Lord, we are making a commitment to be His servants. It is a great privilege to be invited and accepted into God’s Kingdom as servants of the Lord. Indeed, there is no position in any human government or major corporation that is as grand and glorious as being the Lord’s servant. And if we remain faithful as servants of the Lord, we will stand before Him on the Day of Judgment and hear Him say, “Well done, good and faithful servant” (Matt. 25:21). In 2 Timothy 2:14-26, Paul tells Timothy and us, what it means to be a faithful servant of the Lord.

## Read 2 Timothy 2:14-26

1. What are the “things” Timothy must keep reminding people about in verse 14? (2:11-13)

Robert Yarbrough observes,

Paul tells Titus, “Remind the people” (Titus 3:1). Three other early church leaders state that they will “remind” or “call attention” to matters their congregants need to know (2 Pet 1:12; 3 John 10; Jude 5). Often people do not require new information so much as fresh exposure to what they have already learned.<sup>1</sup>

2. Why should we avoid quarreling about words? (2:14)

3. How could Timothy be a workman who was not ashamed but approved by God? (2:15)

4. Why should we avoid godless chatter? (2:16)

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<sup>1</sup> Robert W. Yarbrough, *The Letters to Timothy and Titus* (Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2018), 384.

If we are doing our best to accurately share God's word, we won't get sidetracked by "godless chatter" (v. 16) and "stupid arguments" (v. 23). C. Michael Moss points out,

It is a call for Timothy and all other workmen of God to be good exegetes of Scripture. Paul purposefully draws attention to Scripture as "the word of truth" to contrast it with the "word-battles" (v. 14) and the "godless chatter" (v. 16) of the false teachers Timothy must face.<sup>2</sup>

5. What were Hymenaeus and Philetus teaching? What was the result of their teaching? (2:17-18)

6. What is the inscription on the solid foundation in verse 19?

Moss writes,

Inscriptions on foundation stones indicate either ownership or purpose of the structure. Here there are two inscriptions with which this foundation is "sealed." The first, "The Lord knows those who are his," is an almost exact quote of Num 16:5 in the LXX. The context is the rebellion of Korah, Dathan and Abiram against Moses and ultimately against God. There God clearly distinguishes between those loyal to him and those in rebellion. Paul contends that is what God will do in the church at Ephesus.<sup>3</sup>

7. What kind of vessels are found in a large house? (2:20)

8. How can we be instruments that are useful to the Master? (2:21)

9. What was Timothy told to flee in verse 22?

10. What was Timothy told to pursue in verse 22?

11. How do we pursue these things "along with" other believers? (2:22)

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<sup>2</sup> C. Michael Moss, *The College Press NIV Commentary: 1, 2 Timothy and Titus* (Joplin, MO: College Press, 1995), 214.

<sup>3</sup> Moss, 217.

Yarbrough writes,

The course of action Paul prescribes is not solitary in nature but a project in which believers uphold each other. “Believers” is actually putting it weakly; the participle translated “those who call on the Lord” is the form of a verb (*epikaleo*) often used to describe deep and even desperate appeal to the Lord.<sup>4</sup>

12. Why should we avoid foolish arguments? (2:23)

13. What must the Lord’s servant do instead of quarrelling? (2:24)

14. How should we deal with those who oppose the teaching of God’s word? Why? (2:25)

Moss notes,

Repentance is here seen as the gift of God, resulting in their coming to “a knowledge of the truth” (cf. 1 Tim 2:4). This does not deny human decision in repentance but rather points to the fact that even our repentance is rooted in God’s act and the opportunities granted by God.<sup>5</sup>

15. According to verse 26, why do people continue to oppose the teaching of God’s word?

16. Why do we engage in godless chatter or stupid arguments?

17. What false ideas have destroyed the faith of people you know?

18. In what ways have people in our culture been taken captive by the devil to do his will?

19. How will you pursue God’s purposes in your life this week?

20. How can you improve in your daily speech?

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<sup>4</sup> Yarbrough, *The Letters to Timothy and Titus*, 396.

<sup>5</sup> Moss, *The College Press NIV Commentary: 1, 2 Timothy and Titus*, 220.