

GAINS | WEEK 3: PLAY TO YOUR TRAINING

April 7, 2019

SERMON STUDY

Dive deeper into this week's message and passages from the Bible. Here are some questions to help you guide your group discussion.

This week, Petie helped us see that when we play our lives to the moment or play our lives to our surroundings and the people around us, we end up with “misguided loves” that can wreck us—wrecked relationships, wrecked finances, wrecked mental health, wrecked careers and more. But when we play our lives to our training, we can live a life of integrity, generosity and humility to become world-changing men and women of God.

Read 2 Timothy 3:1-5. When we think of the “last days,” we tend to think of the Zombie Apocalypse or Doomsday. But Paul helps us see that we *are* living in the last days.

- How does Paul characterize the last days? Give examples of how you see these things play out today.
- When you see that we are in the last days, do you feel prompted to see more gains in your life and be more on mission with Jesus? Why or why not? If yes, what could that look like for you?
- At one time or another, we all play to the moment or play to our surroundings, getting caught up in our own desires and what our culture considers normal. Playing to the moment or playing to our surroundings lead to misguided loves: narcissism, materialism and hedonism. In what ways do you struggle with this? What have been some consequences? How can our group pray for each other?

Read 1 Timothy 4:7-8 and 2 Timothy 3:10-17. Play to your training so you don't get caught up in the moment and you don't get caught up in your surroundings. In other words, becoming someone who can make a big difference in the world comes only after you've trained hard to be more like Jesus.

- If you want spiritual gains in your life like humility, generosity and integrity, you have to play to your training by having an example to watch and the guide to follow. Do you have an example to follow of someone who is humble, generous and full of integrity, who is fixed on Jesus? Who is that for you or who could that be for you? Do you spend quality time in the Bible each day, hiding God's Word in your heart (hint: Daily Bible Reading can help!)?
- What encouragement do you need in these areas?
- When you are tempted to play to the moment or play to your surroundings, how could this group help you play to your training and be more like Jesus? In what way could you use your training to make a difference in this world?

REFLECT

What is God saying to you through his word? How and when will you respond?

DAILY BIBLE READING

Need a review of what we're reading in Daily Bible Reading? Here's a glance at how we're being challenged this week. (Subscribe at: tpcc.org/dailybiblereading)

Day One: 2 Timothy 3:1-5 | The last days.

Day Two: 2 Timothy 3:1-5 | Misguided loves.

Day Three: 1 Timothy 4:7-8 | Play to your training.

Day Four: 2 Timothy 3:10-17 | Spiritual weight room.

Day Five: 2 Timothy 3:15 | Follow Jesus!