

2 Timothy 2:14-19 Discussion Guide

Pray

Apart from God, we can do nothing. Pray for the Holy Spirit to guide your discussion. Throughout your time together, continue asking God for help.

Read Scripture

Read 2 Timothy 2 together with special focus on 2:14-19.

Bible Study: The HEAR Method

The bulk of your time will be spent discussing God's Word together. HEAR is an inductive Bible study method that looks closely at what the Bible says to discover what it means so that we can faithfully apply it to our lives.

HEAR stands for:

- **Highlight:** read and observe everything in the passage carefully.
- **Examine:** based on your observations, discover what the passage means in its context.
- **Apply:** determine how the meaning of the passage applies to your life.
- **Respond in prayer:** pray God's Word back to Him.

Remember:

- Walk through the Bible study together using the HEAR method and talk about what stuck out most to you in the passage.
- Make sure you move discussion to the application section of your study.
- Affections, beliefs, and practices: Make sure to apply the passage to all your life.

Pray

- Take time to pray for one another and ask for His grace to apply His Word to our daily lives.

2 Timothy 2:14-19 (ESV)

"Remind them of these things, and charge them before God not to quarrel about words, which does no good, but only ruins the hearers. ¹⁵Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth. ¹⁶But avoid irreverent babble, for it will lead people into more and more ungodliness, ¹⁷and their talk will spread like gangrene. Among them are Hymenaeus, and Philetus, ¹⁸who have swerved from the truth, saying that the resurrection has already happened. They are upsetting the faith of some. ¹⁹But God's firm foundation stands, bearing this seal: 'The Lord knows those who are his,' and, 'Let everyone who names the name of the Lord depart from iniquity.'"

Open: What are some good reminders you've been taught over the years by others and what has been their effect?

Study:

- 1) In verse 14, what is Timothy to specifically "remind" this church about? (Hint: look earlier on in the chapter)
- 2) In verse 14, what was Timothy solemnly to charge disciples to not do? Why?
- 3) In verse 15, how was Timothy to present himself to God? What was required to do this? How might disciples today apply this verse to their own lives?

- 4) What does Paul tell Timothy (and all disciples) their goal should be as Christians in verse 15? What are some things that a good worker of God pursues? What are some things a good worker of God avoids (see vs. 16)?

The teaching of Hymenaeus and Philetus (vs. 17-18) seems to have denied that there would be a bodily resurrection on the last day when Jesus returns. Somehow these men were claiming that the resurrection had ‘already happened’, which would mean that Christians now had everything that they were going to get. This obviously destroys Christian hope.

- 5) What graphic words does Paul use to describe this false teaching in vs. 17? What does he take such a hard line against these distortions?
- 6) What are the three things that this false teaching was doing within this church from verses 16-18? Contrast these with the effect of the gospel’s firm foundation in verse 19.

Apply:

- 7) What other kinds of false teaching might we be in danger from today? What makes it dangerous?
- 8) How can we get caught up in endless “words” or “babble” in our day and age? In what ways should we as Christians handle false teaching?
- 9) How is God calling you to grow in “*rightly handling the word of truth*”? What are practical steps you can take today?

PRAY:

- Take time thank God that the Gospel provides you with a firm foundation.
- Ask God for softness of heart that is amazed and in love with the good news of Jesus Christ.
- Ask God for wisdom and grace to walk in ways that are pleasing to Him.
- Ask God for strength and boldness to rightly handle the word of truth.
- Ask God to silence false teaching and to rescue those who have been led astray.

NOTE: a variety of resources have been used for this discussion guide including: *ESV 12-Week Study Guide*, *The GoodBook 2 Timothy Study Guide* by Mark Mulryne, *10 Days in 2 Timothy Workbook* by Campus Outreach Birmingham, and *2 Timothy Leader Guide* written by Miles O’Neill and Erin Smith.