

Week 39 – Questions to Consider

1 Timothy 1-5

Fun Small Group Warm Up Question:

What is your favorite hobby?

1. How would you describe your calling in life? Why do you think Paul starts 1 Timothy by describing his apostolic calling as a “command of God”? How might we live differently with such a perspective?
 2. Paul calls Timothy “my true child in the faith” in 1 Timothy 1:2. Who is someone that was a spiritual “parent” to you? Who is someone you’ve sought to mentor, guide, encourage, and help as a spiritual “child”? What has made those relationships special and effective?
 3. Why does Paul give so much attention to false teachers? What dangers do they pose? What are some false teachings you’ve noticed over the years or recently? How can we best recognize false teachers?
· www.trustworthyword.com/what-does-the-bible-say-about-false-teachers
 4. Paul asserts that the “law is good” when used correctly, but that it is “for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who strike their fathers and mothers, for murderers, the sexually immoral, men who practice homosexuality, enslavers, liars, perjurers, and whatever else is contrary to sound doctrine” (1 Timothy 1:9-11). How is the law good for those continuing in sin?
 5. Paul describes his life before Jesus as “a blasphemer, persecutor, and insolent opponent” (1 Timothy 1:13). How would you describe your life before Jesus? How can Paul refer to himself as the “foremost” of all sinners (1 Timothy 1:15)? Apart from God, who is most aware of the depths of your sinfulness?
 6. How do we avoid a “shipwreck of faith” like Hymenaeus and Alexander? (1 Timothy 1:19-20) Why would being cast out of church be referred to as “handed over to Satan” (1 Timothy 1:20 & 1 Corinthians 5:5)? How can church discipline help someone? Help the church? (www.trustworthyword.com/church-discipline)
 7. Who does God call us to pray for in 1 Timothy 2:1-4? Why? How should we pray for them? What types of people are the hardest to genuinely pray for?
 8. Why is prayer and unity important among men in church life (1 Timothy 2:8)? Why is modesty and good works emphasized among women in church (1 Tim 2:9-10)?
- More questions at: www.southfork.church/2022-discussion-questions

How to Recognize Bad & False Teachers

1 Timothy 1:3-7 & 1 Timothy 6:2-10 (ESV)

Bad & False Teachings are an U_____ Matter

1 Timothy 1:3–7 “As I urged you...”

www.trustworthyword.com/what-does-the-bible-say-about-false-teachers

Our G_____ in Avoiding & Confronting Bad & False Teachings? Love, Truth, & Salvation

- 1 Timothy 1:5 “The aim of our charge is love that issues from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.”
- 1 Timothy 2:3–4 “This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.”

Bad Teachings Dangerously S_____ from the Word to the World

- 1 Timothy 1:4 “devote themselves to myths and endless genealogies, which promote speculations rather than the stewardship from God that is by faith”
- 1 Timothy 1:19 “holding faith & a good conscience. By rejecting this, some have made shipwreck of their faith”

Some Examples of False Teachings Today...

- **Creation Worship - Relativism** - the Bible isn’t true, everyone gets to establish their own “truth”, sin and truth is subjective, self-worship
- **Health, Wealth, Prosperity and Moral-Therapeutic Deism** - generic belief in a God/higher power who wants you to be good and wants to improve you, self-worship
- **Pluralism** - many ways to God
- **Universalism** - everyone is saved
- **Practical Atheism** - no mention of Hell or God
- **Works-Based Salvation** - Judaism, Catholicism, Mormonism, Jehovah’s Witnesses, Islam

Some Examples of Bad Teachings Today...

- **Culture of Death** - abortion, euthanasia (assisted suicide), minimizing seriousness of suicide (“murderers” 1 Tim 1:9)
- **Sexual Freedom** - lust, pornography, fornication, redefining marriage, no-fault-divorce & remarriage, LGBTQ+
- 1 Timothy 1:9–10 “for those who strike their fathers and mothers, for murderers, the sexually immoral, men who practice homosexuality, enslavers, liars, perjurers, and whatever else is contrary to sound doctrine”
- **“Lone Ranger” Christians, Pastors & Churches**
- 1 Timothy 2:8 “I desire then that in every place the men should pray, lifting holy hands without anger or quarreling”
- 1 Timothy 3:15 “if I delay, you may know how one ought to behave in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, a pillar and buttress of the truth.”
- **Women as Pastors**
- 1 Timothy 2:12–14 “I do not permit a woman to teach or to exercise authority over a man; rather, she is to remain quiet. For Adam was formed first, then Eve; and Adam was not deceived, but the woman was deceived and became a transgressor.”
www.trustworthyword.com/women-pastors

7 Steps Away from Bad & False Teachers

1. Know the Truth to Recognize the Deception

- 1 Timothy 4:13 “Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching.”
- 1 Timothy 6:2 “agree with the sound words of our Lord Jesus”

2. W_____ in Righteousness to Recognize Unrighteousness

- 1 Timothy 4:7–8 “Have nothing to do with irreverent, silly myths. Rather train yourself for godliness; for while bodily training is of some value, godliness is of value in every way, as it holds promise for the present life & also for the life to come.”
- 1 Timothy 6:2–10 “teaching that accords with godliness”

3. Stay Alert to & Aware of their Activity

- 1 Timothy 5:24 “The sins of some people are conspicuous, going before them to judgment, but the sins of others appear later.”

4. E_____ Godly Men as Deacons and Pastors

- 1 Timothy 3:1–13 - Qualifications for Pastors & Deacons
- 1 Timothy 5:24–25 “So also good works are conspicuous, and even those that are not cannot remain hidden”

5. Recognize their Presence and Teachings - Passionate, Sincere, Convincing,

- 1 Timothy 1:7 “desiring to be teachers of the law, without understanding either what they are saying or the things about which they make confident assertions.”
- 1 Timothy 4:1–3 “Now the Spirit expressly says that in later times some will depart from the faith by devoting themselves to deceitful spirits and teachings of demons, through the insincerity of liars whose consciences are seared, who forbid marriage and require abstinence from foods that God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth.”
- 1 Timothy 6:2–10 “puffed up with conceit and understands nothing. He has an unhealthy craving for controversy and for quarrels about words, which produce envy, dissension, slander, evil suspicions, and constant friction among people who are depraved in mind and deprived of the truth, imagining that godliness is a means of gain. ... the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils.”

6. Avoid their Influence - P_____ the Flock

- 1Tim4:16 “Keep a close watch on yourself & on the teaching. Persist in this, for by so doing you will save both yourself & your hearers.”

7. Confront the Lies and Liar

- 1 Timothy 5:20 “As for those who persist in sin, rebuke them in the presence of all, so that the rest may stand in fear.”

This Next Week’s New Testament Reading Plan:

Week 40: 1 Timothy 6 & 2 Timothy 1-4

- **Hope & Purpose in Jesus:** www.southfork.church/jesus
- **Daily Verse by Text Message:** remind.com/join/sfbcdevo
- **Our Plan:** www.southfork.church/2022-bible-reading-plan

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Bad & False Teachings are an Urgent Matter

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Our Goal in Avoiding & Confronting Bad & False Teachings? Love, Truth, & Salvation

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Bad Teachings Dangerously Stray from the Word to the World

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