

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

1) 02 June 2019.....	1Timothy 1.....	Entrusted
2) 09 June.....	1Timothy 2.....	On Mission
3) 16 June.....	1Timothy 3.....	Setting the Example
4) 23 June.....	1Timothy 4.....	Staying the Course
5) 30 June.....	1Timothy 5.....	Being Responsible
6) 07 July.....	1Timothy 6.....	Lasting Investments
7) 14 July.....	2Timothy 1.....	Confidence
8) 21 July.....	2Timothy 2.....	Focused
9) 28 July.....	2Timothy 3.....	Diligent
10) 04 August.....	2Timothy 4.....	Enduring
11) 11 August.....	Titus 1.....	Living with Opposition
12) 18 August.....	Titus 2.....	Living with Integrity
13) 25 August.....	Titus 3.....	Living to Do

INTRODUCTION

- This chapter is chocked full of pithy statements for us to adjust our behavior so we may have the most impact for the Gospel

Passage	Comments
2Timothy 2:1-2	<p>Training other Faithful Disciples</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • v1. How do we be strong in the grace that is in Christ, & what are the results of being strong in God's grace? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Every time we are willingly obedient to God's commands and principles in Scripture we are living by faith and being strong in God's grace ♦ Then God does His work to transform us to be more like Christ and also influence the lives of others as they witness our testimony • v2. Training Faithful Disciples = Church Growth. Church growth should be exponential as depicted by the mushrooming effect of a mustard seed or leaven (Matt 13:31-33) – assuming we are doing our job of actively witnessing & disciplining <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ If we have slow, stagnant, or negative church growth we should ask that tough question – WHY? ♦ If we are a growing church, then our priority is to train others just to keep up with the growth potential
2:3-7	<p>Enduring Hardship</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vv3-6. Paul provides 3 analogies for consideration: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A good soldier remains focused on the task 2. A winning athlete is disciplined & obedient 3. A hard working farmer is rewarded first <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ This means church growth takes focused effort by all • v7. "...for the Lord will give you understanding in everything" – How does this work out for us? Consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ 1Corinthians 2:14 <i>But a natural man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, ... because they are spiritually appraised.</i> ♦ James 1:5 <i>But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him</i> ♦ James 3:17 <i>But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, reasonable, full of mercy and good fruits, unwavering, without hypocrisy.</i>
2:8-13	<p>The Core of Christian Teaching is a Risen Christ</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The death, burial and resurrection of Christ is based on factual historical evidence. Our faith is not blind. • The greatest motivation we have to follow Christ, even in death, is His resurrection. Since He is alive, we too will live forever with Him and reign with Him • He will not leave us or forsake us.....Heb 13:15 • v12. How do we deny Christ? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Ignore His teachings? <input type="checkbox"/> Halfheartedly follow Him? <input type="checkbox"/> Do things our way? <input type="checkbox"/> Disregard His leaders? <input type="checkbox"/> Be a couch potato?

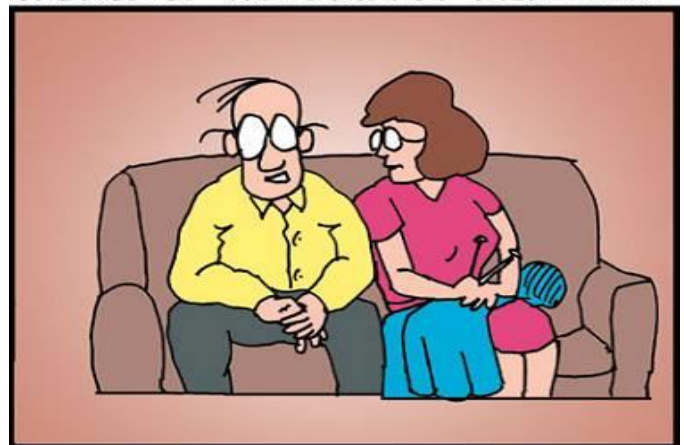
Passage	Comments
2:14-19	<p>STANDING FIRM – This is Not Quick or Easy!!!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • v14. How do you "solemnly charge" them of these fundamental truths? Constant, diligent teaching • vv14,16. Do not get tangled in useless arguments, which cause more harm than good <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Know when to contend for the truth (Jude 3), and to contend with the wicked (Prov 28:4), but avoid time and energy-wasting endeavors (1Tim 1:4; Titus 3:9) ♦ Remember, contending with fools is a no win situation – when you wrestle with a pig you both get muddy and the pig likes it Prov 26:4,5; 29:9 • v15. Be diligent to accurately handle the word of God <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Diligence takes a lot of devoted time and effort ♦ It must be a life-long endeavor more important than eating or chasing wealth Psalms 119:103, 127 • vv17-19. Those who don't take God's word seriously may end up like Hymenaeus & Phil – corrupting others <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ If you are not preparing to be a good & faithful teacher, then be a good and faithful follower
2:20-26	<p>Position Yourself to be Blessed and Fruitful</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vv21-23. We must be a "vessel of honor, sanctified, useful, and prepared for every good work" <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ This is done by willfully avoiding sin and maintaining a "pure heart" through obedient living in thoughts, words, and actions (but this doesn't mean it's easy) • The 5 key ingredients to win the hardest unbeliever is 1) gentleness, 2) kindness, 3) preparedness, 4) not argumentative, and 5) patience <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ In the end, God does the winning and saving – we are just the tools in His hands ♦ ...and pray for the lost, for God will answer such prayers and "will give life to those who have not committed the sin that leads to death" 1John 5:16

CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS

- If we are the tools God wants to use to save the lost, are we sharp or dull tools? Are we useable or broken? Are we bold or passive?
- To change from a poor tool to a power tool we must be serious and sincere students of God's word, of prayer, and of fellowship to sharpen our skills and abilities

NEXT WEEK: 2 Timothy 3. Paul lays out for Timothy, and us, how to be effective in the difficult times of the last days by using God's word to transform unbelievers into believers, and believers into mature disciples

CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp



"Church work is getting me down, so I think I will focus on Jesus for a while" 2Timothy 2:8