

Passing the Baton, a Study of 2 Timothy – Lesson 11

Women of Grace | GraceLife Church

Remind them of these things, and solemnly charge them in the presence of God not to wrangle about words, which is useless and leads to the ruin of the hearers. Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth. But avoid worldly and empty chatter, for it will lead to further ungodliness, and their talk will spread like gangrene. Among them are Hymenaeus and Philetus, men who have gone astray from the truth saying that the resurrection has already taken place, and they upset the faith of some. - 2 Timothy 2:14-18

Day 1 Verse 14, Part 1

Remind them of these things, and solemnly charge them in the presence of God not to wrangle about words, which is useless and leads to the ruin of the hearers. —2 Timothy 2:14

1. Who does Paul want Timothy to remind?
 - a. What things does Paul want Timothy to remind them of?

2. Define the word “solemnly”.

a. What does it mean to solemnly charge someone?

3. What gives weight to Paul's exhortation to Timothy?

a. How does this motivate you to greater holiness in your speech?

4. What does it mean to "wrangle about words"?

a. How do people wrangle about words today?

5. Read 1 Timothy 6:4. The phrase “disputes about words” is the same as “wrangles about words”. What is the context of 1 Timothy 6? How does that help your understanding of what Paul means here in 2 Timothy?

Day 2 Verse 14, Part 2

Remind them of these things, and solemnly charge them in the presence of God not to wrangle about words, which is useless and leads to the ruin of the hearers. —2 Timothy 2:14

1. Why is wrangling about words useless?

2. How does wrangling about words lead to the ruin of the hearers?
 - a. Why does Paul say that it leads to the ruin of the hearers and not the speakers?

3. How do our words affect those around us?
 - a. From Scripture, what should categorize our speech?

4. What is the difference between engaging others who have false beliefs, and wrangling about words with those people?

5. How should we deal with those who want to wrangle about words with us?

6. How can mature believers with solid doctrine still fall into the sin of wrangling with words?

Day 3 Verse 15

Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth. —2 Timothy 2:15

1. What should be the purpose of a teacher's diligence?

2. What is the connection between work and not needing to be ashamed?

3. How does Timothy "accurately handle the word of truth"?
 - a. How does this verse tie into the qualifications of an elder?

4. How might the church today fail to fulfill Paul's command about how to handle the word of God?

5. Why is it so important to follow the example given in Acts 17:11 and compare what we are taught with Scripture?

6. How can we tell the difference between "wrangling about words" and "accurately handling the word of truth"?
 - a. How do we tell the difference between what is trivial and what is important?

 - b. How do we know when to engage with someone and when to ignore an issue?

7. Take a close look at your social media use. Are you “accurately handling the word of truth” or are you “wrangling about words”?
 - a. If you have been sinning in this area, what changes will you make in the future to handle the word of truth in a way that is pleasing to God?

Day 4 Verse 16 & 17

But avoid worldly and empty chatter, for it will lead to further ungodliness, and their talk will spread like gangrene. Among them are Hymenaeus and Philetus, –2
Timothy 2:16-17

1. Why does Paul encourage us to avoid worldly and empty chatter?
 - a. What types of sins might that type of talk lead us into?

2. What do these verses teach us about our speech?

a. Ephesians 4:29

b. Psalm 19:14

c. James 1:19

d. Matthew 12:36-37

e. Proverbs 13:3

f. 1 Peter 3:10

3. What connections is Paul making here between speech and ungodliness?

4. Read 1 Timothy 6:20, 1 Timothy 4:7, and Titus 3:9. How do these help you understand the type of speech that Paul is talking about?

5. How is the speech of false teachers described in Scripture?

6. What is gangrene? How does it spread?

- a. How serious is it today? How serious was it in Paul and Timothy's day?

7. Who is Hymenaeus? (See also 1 Timothy 1:20.)

- a. What conclusion could we draw from the fact that he is mentioned in connection with two different people?

Day 5 Verse 18

men who have gone astray from the truth saying that the resurrection has already taken place, and they upset the faith of some. –2 Timothy 2:18

1. What does it mean that they had gone astray from the truth?

2. Do the greatest theological threats tend to come from outside of the church or from inside of the church? Why do you think that is?

3. What was the danger in saying that the resurrection had already taken place? How would this teaching have shaken the faith of some of the believers?
 - a. Do you believe the resurrection to be a primary doctrine (teaching)?

4. What are we to do with false teachers in the church?

5. What is the end of all false teachers? (See Matthew 7:21-23.)

Dig Deeper

1. Using Scripture and systematic theology book (we recommend Biblical Doctrine by John MacArthur and Richard Mayhue) write out the doctrine of the resurrection.
2. Read <https://www.chapellibrary.org/book/resufg/resurrection>
3. Listen to Pastor James's sermon, "Can't have One without the Other"
<https://gracelife.ca/sermons/cant-have-one-without-the-other/>