

DEAR TIMOTHY...

AN 8 WEEK SERIES IN THE BOOK OF 2 TIMOTHY

Connect group questions

2 Timothy 2: 14-26 – Dear Timothy... God approves

1. Generally speaking, what characterises what most people quarrel about?

Illustration of approved vs non-approved 'tradie'

2. v14 – what is this quarrelling about words of which Paul speaks? What lies behind it and what are the dangers?
3. What is the difference between an approved workman and one who is not?
4. Do you remember what concept 'correctly handling the word of truth' reflects? And what concept "departed from the truth" reflects?
5. The opposite to quarrelling about words will be? (end of v15)
6. Someone at church always wants to get into an argument either about a doctrine (usually a hobby horse about which they want to make a point), or about some quite trivial matter of church life. How should you react?
7. What did Hymenaeus and Philetus mean by claiming the resurrection has already taken place? How would this destroy someone's faith?

Illustration of vessels in the home

8. Read vv20-21. The desire of every Christian should be, to be set apart exclusively for God's purpose, to be useful for God's service; and to be ready for whatever good work God wants them to do. How do we help one another set our hearts on the big picture of who God is calling us to be?
9. A question from last week's reading notes: What are you doing in your life now, to ensure you are faithful, available and teachable?

Illustration re a servant

10. How do you tell the difference between conversation about doctrine which is important and significant because you are defending the gospel, and "stupid and foolish arguments"?
11. How should a pastor (or any person) react to stupid and foolish arguments? What is our more natural tendency?

Application for us:

12. False doctrine: how can we be alert to false doctrine?
13. If we are aware that false doctrine is being taught at our church, what should we do?

Anything new to you in this passage? Pray that we will be alert to false doctrine and therefore avoid useless quarrelling about words.