

Sermon Based Small Groups Study Questions

The King's Royal Appearing

1 Timothy 6:11-16, 20-21

Start It: Connecting with each other

1. In your Christian life have you ever been in a situation where you had to physically “flee” (i.e., leave, excuse yourself, or not attend) because of your faith?
2. Have you ever met or been involved with someone whose doctrine was clearly sub or non-Christian? How did you deal with the situation?

Study It: Connecting with God's Word

1. [6:11] What does Paul tell Timothy to flee from (i.e., what are “these things”)? What is the meaning of “man of God?” Identify each of the six things that Timothy is to pursue instead.
2. [6:12] Why does Paul use the metaphor of a “fight” (see also 1:18) to describe the life of faith? What does Paul mean when he says “take hold of the eternal life?”
3. [6:13] What was Jesus’ “good confession?” Compare it to Timothy’s in the previous verse. How are they connected? How is God described in this verse and why?
4. [6:14] What “commandment” is Timothy suppose to keep? What future event does Paul refer to and how is this supposed to motivate Timothy?
5. [6:15b-16] Identify the meaning of the seven characteristics given of God in these two verses.
6. [6:20] What was Timothy supposed to “guard?” How does this instruction summarize the entire letter? How does “guard” relate to “fight” mentioned in (1:18 and 6:12)?
7. [6:21] What made some go “astray from the faith?” Why is truth and correct doctrine so important (1:10; 4:16)?
8. [1:2 and 6:21] Compare these two verses. What does Paul mean by “grace be with you?”

Live It: Apply the Truth of Scripture

1. Compare the two directives “flee” and “pursue” (NASB) – what do these words mean in practice?. What do you “flee” from in order to keep yourself pure and holy (as a man or woman of God)? What do you “pursue?” Which of the six things given in 6:11 are particularly difficult and which are easier for you? Why is it important for us not just to “flee” but also to “pursue?”
2. Do you experience your Christian life as a “fight?” How do you understand that metaphor? Who are you fighting (Ephesians 6:12; Hebrews 12:4)? What weapons do you use (2 Corinthians 10:4)? Is the outcome ever in doubt (2 Corinthians 1:21-22; Philippians 1:6)? In what sense is this fight “good” (2 Timothy 4:7)?
3. How does the return of Christ affect you practically in your every day walk as a Christian?
4. How important is correct doctrine to your life as a Christian? What do you understand are the “essentials?” Do you think that churches should emphasis this, such as regularly reciting the Apostles Creed or teaching the catechisms?