

1 Timothy

CHAPTER 6:11-21

Lesson 13

While caring for the needs of his people, Timothy needed to care for himself as well. Paul had previously reminded Timothy in 1 Timothy 4:16 to *take heed to yourself*. In our calling and desire to be an example to others, we must first be living what we claim to believe. In his exhortations to *godliness*, Paul used strong contrasting words, delineating to us what we should *flee* and what we should *pursue*; what we should *avoid* and what we should *guard*. *Faithfulness* demands it.

Read 1 Timothy 6:11-21

1. Read through this week's verses using at least two different Bible translations or paraphrases. After reading through these verses, what would you say to someone if they asked you what they are about?
2. The contrasting word, *but*, is used in two times in this section of 1 Timothy 6. Choose one instance of its use and record what is being contrasted.

Read 1 Timothy 6:11,12

1. *But you, O man of God*. As Paul warned of false teaching and choices, he challenged Timothy personally with these words. We, as believers, are women of God. When you consider that title as it relates to you, what things come to mind about God's calling on your life to be different from those who do not follow Him?

2. Ponder the words *flee* and *pursue*. They are in direct opposition to one another. How might these words challenge a complacent Christian?

3. Scan 1 Timothy 6:3-10 and list some of the *things* we are to *flee*.

4. List those things we are to *pursue* (1 Timothy 6:11). In your own words, explain them as they apply to you personally.
 - a. Note the list in Galatians 5:22,23 is very similar. What is important for us to remember as we *pursue* traits of godliness?
 - b. Explain what it means practically to *pursue* these behaviors.

5. What two instructions did Paul give in 1 Timothy 6:12?
 - a. These instructions contain strong action phrases. Define each phrase.

6. Write the last phrase of 1 Timothy 6:12.

- a. This should be a true statement of all believers. We have each been *called* to the life of godliness. Share a memory of a time when you *confessed the good confession* to others.

Read 1 Timothy 6:13-16

1. Paul was aware that his *urging* had witnesses. Who are they?

2. What did Paul state about God?

- a. Note the *life* given to the believer in the following 2 verses. What do you see?

John 6:63

Romans 8:11

- 1.) Share something you appreciate about this.

3. What did Paul state about Jesus in verse 13?

- a. Record Jesus' *good confession* from John 18:37.

- 1.) What can we include in our *good confession* from what Jesus declared?

- 2.) Why are these good facts to *confess* to others?

4. 1 Timothy 6:14-16 is a wonderful reminder that our *godliness* is *gain* (1 Timothy 6:6) not only in this life, but in the life that follows. List what these verses reveal about Jesus.

a. What are your thoughts as you consider these glorious truths about Him?

b. How does knowing the surety of these things, encourage you to *pursue* the things of 1 Timothy 6:11.

1.) What are some things that distract you from *pursuing* these things?

Read 1 Timothy 6:17-19

1. 1 Timothy 6:17 is not a condemnation of those who are *rich*. Rather, it is a command to be sure their lives reflect two things. What are they to:

a. *not be*:

1.) Using the word *haughty* list:

synonyms

antonyms

b. *trust in*:

1.) Using the word *trust* list:

synonyms

antonyms

c. What does 1 Timothy 6:17 remind us about God?

- 1). Why are the *riches* of God better than the *riches* of this world?
2. Paul added to his instructions to the *rich* in verse 18. What did he say?
 - a. Lest we exclude ourselves from *those who are rich*, use your own words to define the word *rich* as it may apply to your financial status.
 - b. What attitude towards your finances is God calling you to?
3. Ponder the words of 1 Timothy 6:19. In what ways does *storing up a good foundation for the time to come*, cause us to *lay hold of* (grasp the things God has for us in eternity) *on eternal life*?
 - a. What is the promise of 1 Peter 1:4?

Read 1 Timothy 6:20,21

1. Paul closed this letter using two contrasting words, exhorting Timothy to both *guard* and *avoid*. Contrast the two words.
 - a. Timothy was to *guard what was committed to his trust*. What/who has God committed to your *trust*?
 - b. Timothy was to *avoid the profane and idle babblings and contradictions of what is falsely called knowledge*. What is *false knowledge*?
 - 1.) What is *true knowledge*?
 - a.) What are some ways we can discern between the two?

2. How can **not** avoiding these lead to *straying in the faith*?

a. What are some indications that someone may have *strayed from the faith*?

1.) What is your responsibility if you suspect that someone has *strayed from the faith*?

Review 1 Timothy 6:11-21

1. In what ways were you personally challenged by these verses?

2. As the words *faith* and *faithful* are key words in this first letter to Timothy, what did you learn about *faith* as you have studied this letter?

Professing to be wise, they became fools,
- Romans 1:22