

Stay Focused on Ministry

August 5, 2018

Passage: I Timothy 4:12-16

Main Point: Live a life devoted to the teachings of Jesus.

Case Study:

You are at your family group meeting and some of the members start agreeing with doctrines that are contrary to Biblical teachings: evolution, reincarnation, and the inherent goodness of human nature. One of these people is the family group leader, another is a professor of religion, and yet another is a committed member of your church. How do you respond to this discussion?

The Word:

1. Read Jeremiah 1:4-8. Why were Timothy and Jeremiah not supposed to worry about their age? (also see 1 Timothy 4:14) (v.12)
2. Why was it important for Timothy to devote his time to the public reading of Scripture, preaching, and teaching? (v.13)
3. Read 2 Kings 22:8-13. How does reading Scripture transform people? (v.13)

The World:

1. How does setting a godly example to the world make a difference? (v.15)
2. What does giving yourself wholly to godliness and public worship look like? (v.15)
3. What does it mean that through perseverance, you will save yourself? What does it mean, you will save your hearers? (v.16)

The Application:

1. Paul is writing to Timothy, but is he also writing to you? How do verses 12-16 apply to your life?
2. In verse 15, Paul says if Timothy is diligent, others will see his progress. What progress is Paul referring to?
3. In what ways can we be more accountable to one another?

What Questions do I have for my Family Group?

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Key Cross References:

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How to use this guide:

- **Study and discuss the passage**, not necessarily the outline of the sermon
- Don't feel pressure to ask all the questions, use your discernment based on time and needs of the group
- Engage the mind with good doctrine and move to the heart pushing toward application (A Key diagnostic for the leader to discern the health of his group is to listen "heart" conversation.