

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH

PAUL'S FIRST LETTER TO TIMOTHY

I TIMOTHY 6:3-21

WEEK OF APRIL 20 – April 25

PAULS CONCLUDING INSTRUCTIONS FOR CONDUCT IN THE CHURCH

Paul concludes his letter to Timothy with God's instruction for the importance of recognizing the nature and the motivation of false teachers (1 Tim. 6:3-5). He addresses a godly perspective and proper attitude toward money, riches, contentment and godliness. (1 Tim. 6:6-10 and 1 Tim. 6:17-19). He charges Timothy, as a man of God, to flee a love for money, pursue righteousness and keep (obey) God's commandments. (1Tim. 6:11-16). He concludes his charge to Timothy to guard what was entrusted to Him, the Word of God, and to uphold and proclaim this most precious gift, the Word of God. (1Tim. 6:20-21).

All of Paul's instruction is profitable and applicable to all of us in His church today. (1 Timothy 3:16). As you study and meditate upon these passages, ask God to show you those truths most needful for your attention today.

Read 1 Timothy 6:3-5 The characteristics and motive of False Teachers

Paul addressed the danger and destructiveness of false teaching in **chapters 1 and 4 of 1 Timothy**. As he gives his final instruction to Timothy in this letter, he again warns of false teachers, exposing their characteristics and motives.

1. How are the false teachers described in **1 Tim. 6:3-5** and what does Paul say about their motivation?

Read 1 Timothy 6:6-10 and 6:17-19 The believer's contentment and attitude toward money and riches

"How should believers view money? First, they must realize that having money is not wrong in itself.

1 Samuel 2:7 says, "The Lord makes poor and rich." The Bible does not teach that being wealthy is a sin."

"Some of the great men of the Old Testament such as Abraham, Job and Solomon were extremely wealthy".

MacArthur Commentary 1 Timothy, page 247

2. Contrasted to the false teachers who seek monetary gain in **vs 5**, in **1 Tim, 6:6-8**, what does Paul instruct about true contentment and a proper perspective of money and material possessions?
3. What does **Phil. 4:11-12** tell you about an attitude of contentment with our resources, and from **Phil 4:13**, who supplies what is needed to experience true contentment in uncertain and changing circumstances?
4. What are the dangers of a love for money in **1 Tim. 6:9-10**?

"Like a gun, there is nothing inherently wrong with money. But like a gun, money can be used for good and evil purposes. Thus, the issue is not money but one's attitude toward it." 1 Timothy, page 249

5. From **1 Tim. 6:6-10**, what have you learned about your attitude toward money and possessions?
What do you purpose to change in this area?

6. In **1 Timothy 6:17-19**, what are Paul's warnings and instructions to those who are rich?

"To be rich is to have more than the mere essentials of food, clothing, and shelter. In today's terminology, it means to have discretionary dollars. Most Western Christians today fall into that category." 1 Timothy, page 280

Read 1 Timothy 6:11-14 Instruction to a Man of God

7. What attitudes, actions and commitments does Paul command of the man of God?

8. Which of those commands do you most need to heed?

Read 1 Timothy 6:15-16 A Doxology of Praise

Paul's outburst of praise seems to be triggered by his words about the return of Christ in **1 Tim 6:4**.

9. What truth(s) or attribute(s) of God captured your attention in Paul's praise-filled doxology?
Why were those significant to you?

Read 1 Timothy 6:20-21 Paul's concluding command and warning

10. What is it that Timothy is to guard? See the following passages for additional reference:

- 2 Timothy 1:13-14
- 2 Timothy 2:15-16
- 2 Timothy 4:1-2

11. What was Paul's warning to Timothy about those powerful distractions that could impact Timothy's calling to guard the Word?

12. What truth(s) from these passages (**1 Timothy 6:3-21**) are most important for your personal growth in godliness?

13. What is your plan to act upon those truths?