

2 Timothy 2:16-26 "Run from These and Pursue These"
January 13, 2010 Message # 3459

"Avoid godless chatter, because those who indulge in it will become more and more ungodly. Their teaching will spread like gangrene. Among them are Hymenaeus and Philetus, who have wandered away from the truth. They say that the resurrection has already taken place, and they destroy the faith of some." (2Timothy 2:16-18 NIV)

Ungodly teaching spreads and kills



"Nevertheless, God's solid foundation stands firm, sealed with this inscription: 'The Lord knows those who are his,' and, 'Everyone who confesses the name of the Lord must turn away from wickedness.'" (2Timothy 2:19 NIV)

• **God's Word and God's church will never be defeated**

"In a large house there are articles not only of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay; some are for noble purposes and some for ignoble." (2Timothy 2:20 NIV)

Which would you rather drink from?



• **If a vessel is to be usable, it must be CLEAN – HOLY**

"If a man cleanses himself from the latter, he will be an instrument for noble purposes, made holy, useful to the Master and prepared to do any good work." (2Timothy 2:21 NIV)

"Your boasting is not good. Don't you know that a little yeast works through the whole batch of dough?" (1Corinthians 5:6 NIV)

"But now I am writing to you that you must not associate with anyone who calls himself a brother but is sexually immoral or greedy, an idolater or a slanderer, a drunkard or a swindler. With such a man do not even eat." (1Corinthians 5:11 NIV)

"The good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and the evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For out of the overflow of his heart his mouth speaks." (Luke 6:45 NIV)

Proverbs 4:23 NLT Above all else, guard your heart, for it affects everything you do.

• **Focus on making your heart SPIRITUALLY HEALTHY**

"Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts." (Psalms 139:23 NLT)

Ephesians 2:10 For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

- To be useable for God we must be clean **and** available

“Flee the evil desires of youth, and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.” (2 Timothy 2:22 NIV)

- Flee from – run away – from what is wrong
- Pursue – run after – what is right
- Peace – right relationship with God and with men

Romans 12:18 If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone

“Don't have anything to do with foolish and stupid arguments, because you know they produce quarrels. And the Lord's servant must not quarrel; instead, he must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful.” (2 Timothy 2:23-24 NIV)

- A servant of God must go after unity and peace in the church

How good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in unity! It is like precious oil poured on the head, running down on the beard, running down on Aaron's beard, down upon the collar of his robes. It is as if the dew of Hermon were falling on Mount Zion. For there the LORD bestows his blessing, even life forevermore.” (Psalms 133:1-3 NIV)

- Unity brings refreshment
- Unity brings God's blessings

2 Corinthians 13:11 Finally, brothers, good-bye. Aim for perfection, listen to my appeal, **be of one mind, live in peace.**

“Those who oppose him he must gently instruct, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the truth,” (2 Timothy 2:25 NIV)

Galatians 6:1 Brothers, if someone is caught in a sin, you who are spiritual should restore him gently. But watch yourself, or you also may be tempted.

“and that they will come to their senses and escape from the trap of the devil, who has taken them captive to do his will.” (2 Timothy 2:26 NIV)

John 8:34 Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave to sin.

“The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed,” (Luke 4:18 NIV)

- Be a hard worker, a clean usable vessel, and a gentle servant

All Bible references are from the New International Version (NIV) unless otherwise noted. NLT = New Living Translation.