

1 Timothy

Week 6 - Chapter 6:3-21

Pray for your time together in God's Word!

? Imagine that you were given one million dollars. What would you do with it and why?

Read the passage out loud as a group. Optional: Give the group 3 minutes to look at the passage on their own.

1 Timothy 6:3-21 (NIV)

³ If anyone teaches otherwise and does not agree to the sound instruction of our Lord Jesus Christ and to godly teaching, ⁴ they are conceited and understand nothing. They have an unhealthy interest in controversies and quarrels about words that result in envy, strife, malicious talk, evil suspicions ⁵ and constant friction between people of corrupt mind, who have been robbed of the truth and who think that godliness is a means to financial gain.

⁶ But godliness with contentment is great gain. ⁷ For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. ⁸ But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. ⁹ Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰ For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

¹¹ But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness. ¹² Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses. ¹³ In the sight of God, who gives life to everything, and of Christ Jesus, who while testifying before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you ¹⁴ to keep this command without spot or blame until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵ which God will bring about in his own time—God, the blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords, ¹⁶ who alone is immortal and who lives in unapproachable light, whom no one has seen or can see. To him be honor and might forever. Amen.

¹⁷ Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. ¹⁸ Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. ¹⁹ In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.

²⁰ Timothy, guard what has been entrusted to your care. Turn away from godless chatter and the opposing ideas of what is falsely called knowledge, ²¹ which some have professed and in so doing have departed from the faith.

Grace be with you all.

? Today, as in Paul's day, people pursue wealth or gain. Why do people pursue wealth?

? Look at the person who is described in verses 3-5. What is gained by these actions?

? In verse 6 Paul states that, "godliness with contentment is great gain." Contrast the ungodly mindset of verses 3-5 with the godly outlook of verses 7-8. How do they differ and why?

? How might the mindset of verses 7-8 bring you contentment?

? Not only does Paul instruct Timothy to flee, but also tells him what to pursue in verses 11b-16. How are we empowered to 'flee' finding our security in material possessions by pursuing God?

? Finally, In verse 20 Paul instructs Timothy to "guard what has been entrusted to your [his] care" by "Turn(ing) away from godless chatter and the opposing ideas of what is falsely called knowledge" How can these actions guard one's faith?

? In today's passage we have been presented with two contrasting mindsets and courses of action. How can the encouragement that Paul wrote to Timothy encourage and empower you to live out your faith?

? What is our community application of this passage?