

the GOSPEL CHANGES EVERYTHING

March 1, 2015 – Discussion Questions
1 Timothy 4:11-16– The Gospel and Godly Living: Pt 3
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Intro

Growth in the Christian life is a direct result of commitment. In Paul's letter to Timothy, this senior leader challenges a younger leader to make 3 renewed commitments.

Questions –

- 1) Are you investing your life in any younger people?
- 2) What commitments do you think are important for believers?

I. A Commitment to Gospel-Centred Commands

Paul exhorts Timothy with 10 commands in these verses.
8 of these commands are POSITIVE, 2 are negative.

- a) Review the 10 commands by selecting the imperative verbs in these verses.
- b) What authority did Paul have in the church? Read 1 Timothy 1:1 and Ephesians 2:20.
- c) What are the two negative commands? Why might the Ephesian church members look down on Timothy? (v.12) Why might Timothy neglect his gifting? (v.14)

II. A Commitment to Gospel-Centred Conduct

As a remedy for being 'despised' or 'looked down upon' by older believers, Paul calls Timothy to be an example in 5 areas – Speech – Life – Love – Faith – Purity.

a) Speech – What we say and how we say it

Read Proverbs 18:21 and James 3:1-12. Why is it so hard to control what we say?

b) Life – How we live and why

"Your actions louder than your words." What is a hypocrite? How should we deal with any hypocrisy we discover in our own lives?

c) Love – What we love and why we love it

Read Matthew 22:34-40. Who are we called to love and in what way? Read 1 John 2:15-17. What are we called NOT to love and why?

d) Faith – What/Whom we trust and why

What has God used in your life to deepen your trust in Him? Proverbs 3:5-6 urges us to "Trust in the LORD with all your heart..." How may we increase or build our trust?

e) Purity

Read Psalm 119:9. Why is purity so important for a leader? What damage is caused to others through impurity?

III. A Commitment to Gospel-Centred Callings

Paul calls Timothy to make a clear commitment to...

a) Scripture – Read Romans 10:17

What is your plan in reading Scripture? Do you have any ideas for developing the discipline of Bible Reading? What evidence in your life shows that you are committed to Scripture?

b) Service

Paul urges Timothy to commit himself to preaching and teaching – to use the gift God had obviously given him. How are you serving God? What spiritual gift(s) has God given you? God does not expect us to be involved in any ministry for which He has not equipped us. Pray for the ministry of Forward Baptist Church that God would supply the church with willing servants to serve in 2015.