

Exercise Discernment in the Ministry (2 Timothy 2:14-19)

v. 14 – Remind them – of the teaching of vv. 3-13

- Charge them not to _____ about _____ (1 Tim. 1:4-6)
- Reason – of no _____ and it leads to _____ (1 Tim. 6:4)

v. 15 – Be _____ to be approved by _____

- A workman who is not _____
- Able to handle _____ the word of truth

vv. 16-19 – Avoid _____ and empty chatter (1 Tim. 1:6-7; 6:20)

- Results in going further & further into _____ (1 Tim. 6:3)
- Their wrong message will _____
 - 1) Their error – only a spiritual, no physical _____
 - 2) The _____ knows who His approved servants are
 - 3) His true servants are to _____ from wickedness

Big Ideas and Application – Do^s and Don't^s

1. **Do** – Cut _____ with God's Word

- _____ God's Word, including the _____, accurately
Takes _____
- Pray for _____ to learn the Word of God
- We must be accurate about _____
- The right _____ – to be _____ to God vs. man

2. **Don't** – Wrangle about _____

Stay away from _____ and vain talk – *different* _____

- Results – destruction and more _____
Example: *Bible does not teach that _____ is a sin*

Results:

3. Dealing with those outside the local church who teach / live error

- If known personally, my responsibility is _____
- _____ listening to them – have discernment
- v. 19 – Let God be their _____
- v. 19 – Turn away from _____ in my own life

Discussion Questions:

1. How can I improve my accuracy with respect to the word of truth?
 - What is one specific area of Scripture or theology that I need to address?
 - What is my plan to begin?
2. Where am I (honestly) seeking the approval of men above God's approval?
 - Can I identify the heart of the problem...and determine a way forward?
3. Do I tend to get easily drawn into wrangling about words (v. 14) or worldly and empty chatter, including false teaching (v. 16)?
 - Can I think of an example? How did it turn out?
 - What will it mean for me to *obey God* in this area?
4. What is *one thing* you definitely want to take away with you from today's message?

How do you plan to *follow through* on that *one thing*?