

# DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

*Our Mission: Reaching out to leaders who can change the world.*

September 2014

## PAUL'S LAST WORDS: BE A WORKMAN APPROVED BY GOD!

### INTRODUCTION

- What is something you created with your own hands that turned out nice?

### SCRIPTURE PASSAGES

#### Read 2 Timothy 2:14-19

1. What did Paul remind Timothy to tell the people and to then charge them to do? Why?

*Note: In ministry, the difference between the good and bad workman is that the former wants the approval of God upon his work, whereas the latter wants the approval of men.<sup>1</sup>*

2. How does a workman correctly handle the Word of God? 2 Tim 3:16, 17; 2 Cor 10:18; 5:10

3. How would you characterize “godless chatter”? What effect does it have on others?

4. What happens when a part of the physical body gets gangrene? How does it affect the rest of the body? What are the spiritual implications?

5. What happens when the truth is violated (ie, Hymenaeus and Philetus)? 1Tim 1:20; 1 Cor 15:42

*Note: They were denying the physical resurrection of the body, a common Greek view because they thought the body was evil.*

6. How do we avoid “wandering” or “swerving” from the truth? v.19

*Note: If we claim to be Christians, then we must live for God as Jesus did. The love and grace of God does not free us to sin; it gives us the strength and the desire to gladly discover and do His will.<sup>2</sup>*

7. Why is truth important in the process of discipleship and multiplication?

### EVALUATION/APPLICATION

- What are some practical steps we can take to ensure we are workman approved by God? How can we pass these principles on to others?
- Of the four goals mentioned in verse 22, which one do you need to work on this week? How will you demonstrate it in word and in deed?

***Repeat these basic essentials over and over to God's people. Warn them before God against pious nitpicking, which chips away at the faith. It just wears everyone out. Concentrate on doing your best for God, work you won't be ashamed of, laying out the truth plain and simple. Stay clear of pious talk that is only talk. Words are not mere words, you know. If they're not backed by a godly life, they accumulate as poison in the soul. Hymenaeus and Philetus are examples, throwing believers off stride and missing the truth by a mile by saying the resurrection is over and done with. Meanwhile, God's firm foundation is as firm as ever, these sentences engraved on the stones: God knows who belongs to him. Spurn evil, all you who name God as God.***

*2 Timothy 2:14-18, The Message*

<sup>1</sup> Williams, P. (2007). *Opening up 2 Timothy* (p. 57). Leominster: Day One Publications.

<sup>2</sup> Stanley, C. F. (2005). *The Charles F. Stanley life principles Bible: New King James Version* (2 Ti 2:19). Nashville, TN: Nelson Bibles.