

An Unashamed Workman – 2 Tim. 2: 1-15

02-17-19 Small Group Questions

Getting Going (15 mins)

1. Settling In & Opening Prayer
2. Share your favorite memory of a time when you were without electricity.

Digging Deeper (40 mins)

1. Read 2 Timothy 2: 1-15 as a group
2. In verse 2, Paul gives Timothy a directive as to what he (Timothy) is to do with “the things” that he (Timothy) has heard from Paul.
 - What is that directive?
 - What are the qualifications of the men to whom Timothy is to share these “things”?
 - What are these faithful men to do with “the things” that Timothy is entrusting to them?
 - How does Paul’s directive to Timothy apply to what we learn at church and at small group?
3. In verse 14, Paul tells Timothy to “remind them of these things.”
 - What are the “these things” that Timothy is to remind “them” of?
 - To whom is Paul referring when he uses the pronoun “them?” Hint: Look at verse 2.
4. In verse 15, Paul calls Timothy to be “diligent.”
 - How do you define the word “diligent”?
 - To what is Timothy to be diligent?
 - In what areas of your life are you diligent?
 - Are you diligent in the study and sharing of God’s Word?
5. In verse 15, Paul uses the word “diligent” to describe the effort that Timothy was to exude in presenting himself.
 - What was the goal that Paul was wanting Timothy to achieve by the exercise of diligence?
 - To whom was Timothy to be “approved”?
 - For what was he to be “approved?”
 - Do you believe that Paul’s call to Timothy to be diligent to present himself approved to God as one who accurately handles the word of truth applies to us today as well? Why or why not?
6. In verse 15, Paul uses the word “workman.” During the first century, the word “workman” was applied to those who did “back-breaking” physical labor. Further, these “workman” were usually hired to perform a specific task. At the end of that day, the owner would inspect the workman’s work. If his work was not “approved,” he would experience the shame of having his work rejected and, as a result, not getting paid. [The first century was a culture of “shame.” If you did not do right, your actions were considered “shameful”].
 - Do you see yourself as a “workman” for the Lord? If so, how? If not, why not?
 - If God were to inspect your work now, would you be ashamed? How should you respond to that shame?
 - As a bonus question, where else in the N.T. does Paul speak of not being “ashamed?” [Hint, look at Romans 1]

7. In verse 15, Paul, in the NASB, uses the phrase “accurately handling the word of God.” The phrase “accurately handling” comes from the Greek meaning to “cut straight” or to “guide along a straight path.”
- How, if at all, do these definitions from the original Greek change your application of Paul’s call to Timothy to diligently present himself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth (NASB)?
 - How can members of your small group encourage one another to “cut straight” the word of truth?

Practical Preparation (10 mins)

1. What is one thing you can ask God to help you with this week to start fulfilling verse 15?

Parting Prayer (15 mins)