

The Most Excellent Way

Discipleship/Leadership Bible Study Homework

“Guard the Truth”

HEART ATTITUDE: Living for the King

Are you on the side of truth? Do you listen to your King? Is there a greater privilege in life than to be entrusted with the Truth?

Paul concludes his first letter to Timothy with the charge “to keep this command” This may refer to the commands Christ gave His disciples, or to Timothy's promise to serve Christ. Paul compared Timothy's confession of faith to Christ's before Pilate: “In fact, for this reason I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to Me” (John 18:37, NIV).

Why were you born?

1 TIMOTHY 6:13-21 (NIV)

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 (13)

¹⁴To keep this command without spot

or blame until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, (14)

¹⁵Which God will bring about in His own time—God, the blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords, (15)

¹⁶Who 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. (16)

¹⁷Command 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. (17)

¹⁸Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. (18)

¹⁹In 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. (19)

²⁰Timothy, guard what has been entrusted to your care.

Turn away from godless chatter and the opposing ideas of what is falsely called knowledge, (20)

²¹Which some have professed and in so doing have wandered from the faith. Grace be with you. (21)

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• FOCUSING

1. What sort of goals do people in your profession or lifestyle tend to pursue?

2. What goals do TV commercials and print ads encourage us to pursue?

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- **STUDYING GOD’S WORD**

3. When did Jesus make “the good confession”? (6:13)

4. How long was Timothy supposed to keep Paul’s command? (6:14-15)

5. When will Christ return? (6:14-15)

6. What titles and attributes did Paul ascribe to God? (6:15-16)

7. Why should those who are rich not be arrogant or put their hope in wealth? (6:17)

8. What command is given to those who are rich? (6:18)

9. Why would someone want to lay up treasure for themselves? (6:19)

Ephesus was a wealthy city and the church probably had wealthy members. Paul advised Timothy to teach that having riches carries responsibility. Those who have money must be generous, not arrogant because they have a lot to give. They must be careful not to put their trust in money instead of in the living God for their security. Even if we don't have material wealth, we can be rich in good works toward others. No matter how poor we are, we have something to share with everyone — the Gospel!

10. What was Timothy to guard? (6:20)

11. What was Timothy to turn away from? (6:20)

12. How had some wandered away from the truth? (6:20-21)

- **UNDERSTANDING**

13. Before whom have you made a confession of your faith?

14. How do God’s attributes influence your worship of Him?

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15. Why is it so easy for us to trust in our possessions, accomplishments, or abilities?

16. In what ways do people place their treasure here on earth?

17. How can a person lay up treasure in heaven?

18. How is it possible for someone to wander away from the faith?

19. What actions can you take that will store treasure in heaven for you?

• **DOING THE WORD**

20. What preventive measure can you take each day to be sure that you don't wander from the faith?

21. Is Jesus your king? Why?

22. How will you guard His truth?

May God richly bless you as you study His Word!