

# Gospel Faithfulness

Proclamation Life Groups; 2 Timothy 2:14-26; Week of Sunday, August 7, 2016; Steve Thiel

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**We are all commissioned and empowered to be faithful to the gospel in our lives and with our words. Therefore, Paul calls us to be unashamed workmen, honorable vessels, and the Lord's servants for the salvation of souls.**

## **I. The Unashamed Workman – Read 2 Timothy 2:14-19**

- A. What is the “hard work” of a pastor?
  
- B. How does it compare with that of a farmer or carpenter or soldier? In what ways would shoddy pastoral work show itself? In what ways does hard work pay off in a congregation?
  
- C. Is the pastor the only spiritual “workman” in the church? How do others labor?
  
- D. What false doctrine is being taught (v.18)? How is the description given (v.17) helpful in understanding the significance of false teaching? Why do you think lies spread so quickly?

## **II. The Honorable Vessel – Read 2 Timothy 2:20-22**

- A. What imagery are we given in verses 21 and 22 and how is it helpful?
  
- B. What undesirable “youthful passions” have you seen in yourself and in others? How does the Christian response to these things compare and contrast with the secular culture?
  
- C. What desires for “righteousness” would you like to cultivate in yourself and in others?
  
- D. What are some practical steps that you could take to put off sin and put on righteousness?

## **III. The Lord's Servant – Read 2 Timothy 2:23-26**

- A. What kinds of “disputes” are worthwhile for Christians to engage in? Give some examples.
  
- B. What is the difference between being gentle and being timid? How can a Christian balance humility with boldness and confidence? Which side do you struggle with the most?
  
- C. What's the difference between winning an argument and winning souls? How would you like to grow in caring less about being right and more about people going to heaven?