



Welcome!

Welcome to the "Dig Deep" Bible studies. These studies are based on the message series, "Inside the Pastor's Mind," a study on the New Testament book of 1 Timothy. These short Bible studies are meant to help you take Sunday's message home and reflect on it throughout the week and apply it to your daily life. If you missed a message, or want to listen to it again, go to www.fishersoffamily.org and click on the "Media" link and download the message audio. We pray that you are blessed in your study of Scripture!

Read 1 Timothy 6:3-10

Paul begins his comments in verses 3 and 4 by talking about "false doctrines." Pastor Zach noted that the Greek word for "false doctrines" is *heterodidaskaleo*, meaning "different teaching." In other words, if someone teaches something different from Jesus, it is false. Read Galatians 1:6-9. What is the consequence for teaching differently from Christ?

Pastor Zach mentioned a couple of "different teachings" that are prevalent today, having to do with the ease of divorce and the existence of hell. Can you think of any other "different teachings" that are freely promoted? Are there any teachings of Christ that you feel uncomfortable with and wish they were different?

There is a progression of words in verses 3 and 4, each becoming more grave, which spell out the danger of *heterodidaskaleo*. This progression can be outlined as follows:

- Someone teaches "false doctrines" (*heterodidaskaleo*) which are not of God.
- This leads to an "unhealthy interest" (*noseo*) in controversies and quarrels. We get our word "nauseate" from *noseo*. In other words, Paul says that false doctrine can make you spiritually sick, or nauseated!

- This *noseo* eventually results “malicious talk” (*blasphemia*), or “blasphemy” against God. In other words, you blaspheme God and spiritually die.

Here, then, is Paul’s chain:

False teaching → Spiritual nausea or sickness → Blasphemy or spiritual death

How does this highlight the danger of false doctrine? Do you think people take false doctrine seriously today? How can you protect yourself against such false teaching (see John 10:1-5 and 1 John 4:1-3 for help)?

In the second part of his message, Pastor Zach explained why some people freely and boldly teach *heterodidaskaleo*: they think that “godliness is a means to financial gain,” as Paul writes in verse 5. Does financial gain really matter in the end according to verse 7? Why?

Pastor Zach offered an equation, based on verse 6 of Paul’s words, to true spiritual gain:

Godliness + 0 = Great Gain

In other words, the godliness that is expressed in Christ alone is enough to give us the great gain of our forgiveness, life, and eternal salvation. We don’t need to add anything to that godliness. Do you try to add anything to godliness? What? How can you find contentment in Christ alone?

Pastor Zach concluded his message by offering four observations on verses 9 and 10:

- You don’t have to be rich to be greedy.
- It’s the love of money, not money itself, that’s a problem.
- Loving money is “a” root and not “the” root of all evil.
- We don’t have to pierce ourselves with griefs because we have one who has been pierced for us.

Reflect on each of these observations. Do you struggle with greed, even if you are not rich, because you “want” to be rich, as Paul says in verse 9? Where does your money ultimately reside: in your bank account or in your heart? If money is only “a” root of evil and not “the” root of evil, as Paul says in verse 10, are there other roots of evil that vie for your soul other than money? What are they? If the roots of evil in this world only pierce our souls and bring us grief, how can we give these roots over to Jesus who has been pierced for our sins as Isaiah 53:5 says? What comfort does this passage from Isaiah offer you?