

Meet For The Master's Use

2 Timothy 2:20–26

Brethren Need To Be Reminded 2 Timothy 2:14

Of things they have learned in the past.

- It is so easy to forget.
(cf. 1 Timothy 4:6; 2 Peter 1:12–13; 3:1–2).
- ▶ The “purging” in our text is necessary in order for one to be “useful” to our master, our Lord.
- ▶ The word **meet** (*euchrēstos*) means “useful, serviceable (*eu*, well, *chraomai*, to use)” (Vine).

WE MUST WORK ON OUR PERSONAL CONDUCT

THINGS TO AVOID ...

1. **Must cleanse oneself from “these”** – 2 Timothy 2:21
 - Vessels of dishonor – 2 Timothy 2:20
 - Teachers of false doctrine like Hymenaeus and Philetus – cf. 2 Timothy 2:16–18
 2. **Must flee youthful lusts** – 2 Timothy 2:22
 - The lust of the flesh, such as fornication – 1 Corinthians 6:18
 - The lust of the eyes, such as materialism – cf. 1 Timothy 6:9–11
- We must avoid both wicked associations and wicked conduct.

PERSONAL CONDUCT

THINGS TO DO ...

1. **Must pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace** – 2 Timothy 2:22
 - Qualities without which no one will see the Lord – Hebrews 12:14
 - Qualities well suited for the “man of God” – cf. 1 Timothy 6:11
 2. **With those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart** – 2 Timothy 2:22
 - Together with those who sincerely love God
 - i.e. not alone, nor in the company of those “vessels of dishonor”
- We must seek both holy conduct and holy associations

WE MUST WORK ON INTERPERSONAL RELATIONS

THINGS TO AVOID ...

1. **Must avoid foolish and ignorant disputes** – 2 Timothy 2:23 (cf. 1 Timothy 1:4; 4:7; 6:4, 20; 2 Timothy 1:13).
 - That generate strife – 2 Timothy 2:23; cf. 1 Timothy 1:4; 6:4
 - That bring ruin to the hearers – 2 Timothy 2:14; cf. Titus 3:9
 - That increase to more ungodliness – 2 Timothy 2:16
 2. **Must not quarrel** – 2 Timothy 2:24
 - That is, strive or fight over words – cf. 2 Timothy 2:23
 - “engage in a war of words, to quarrel, wrangle, dispute” – Thayer
- We must avoid discussions that are little more than “word battles”

INTERPERSONAL RELATIONS

THINGS TO DO ...

1. **Must be gentle to all** – 2 Timothy 2:24
 - “affable, that is, mild or kind” – Strong
 - “not only to troubled minds, and wounded consciences, by supplying them with the precious promises and truths of the Gospel; and to backsliders, by restoring them in a spirit of meekness; but even to those who contradict the truth, and themselves, by mild and kind instructions.” – Gill

INTERPERSONAL RELATIONS

THINGS TO DO ...

2. **Must be able to teach** – 2 Timothy 2:24
 - “apt and skillful in teaching” – **Thayer**
 - Thus able to both exhort and convict those who contradict – cf. **Titus 1:9**
3. **Must be gentle (patient)** – 2 Timothy 2:24
 - “patient of ills and wrongs, forbearing” – **Thayer**
 - “The Greek word here used does not elsewhere occur in the New Testament. It means, patient under evils and injuries” – **Barnes**
 - A Christ-like quality much needed in “word battles” – cf. **Ephesians 4:31–32; Colossians 3:13**

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INTERPERSONAL RELATIONS

THINGS TO DO ...

4. **Must correct in meekness** – 2 Timothy 2:25
(cf. Matthew 11:29). *“Now the man Moses was very meek, above all the men which were upon the face of the earth” (Numbers 12:3).*
 - That is, with “gentleness, mildness, meekness” – **Thayer**
 - Even against those who:
 - 1) Who oppose the truth
 - 2) Who are ensnared by the devil
 - For such qualities are weapons “mighty in God” – cf. **2 Corinthians 10:1–5**
 - 1) Not carnal, such as wrath, anger, and strife
 - 2) But mighty for casting down arguments, bringing thoughts into captivity to Christ.
- **We must develop and demonstrate a Christ-like character toward the opposition.**

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