

# Women's Bible Study

## ***A Spiritual Legacy***

*Handle Truth Correctly : 2 Timothy 2:14-26*

*Gretchen Steer – March 16, 2011*

### Intensive Study Questions

**Key verse: "Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.**

(2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 2:15)

1. What do we tend to quarrel about in church life? Do these issues qualify as "quarreling about words" (v. 14)? In God's eyes, are there issues which are worth quarreling about? What might those be? Look at James' advice on the tongue (see James 3:5-6) and Paul's advice to the Ephesians (Eph. 4:29; 31). What does God want us to do with our speech?
2. Look at v. 15. Workmen usually receive training and apprenticeship in the tools of their trade. What do workmen approved by God need to master? Name some practical ways that we can "master the word of truth". Does God's approval of us rest on what we know and what we do? Why or why not?
3. Paul talks about false teaching from Hymenaeus and Philetus. Look up Jude 4, and Jude 17-19. What characterizes false teachers? How do they commonly operate? How can we tell false from true when it comes to teaching?
4. In v. 21 Paul says that we can be made holy. How does the Holy Spirit help in this process? (look up Romans 2:29; John 14:26; 1 Peter 1:2) How would you describe our part in the process of being made holy? What is God's part of this process?
5. Look at v. 24. Paul describes "the Lord's servant". Name some ways that we serve God. Jesus was a servant leader. How did he serve us? (locate 1-2 references about actions of Christ that demonstrate his servant leadership.) Now think of some ways that we can serve each other and put each other's needs before our own. How can we be servants without becoming resentful or bitter?
6. Handling opposition is one of the most difficult things that we do in life. What does this passage advise us to do with our opponents? In the Christian life are we ever permitted to remain at odds with another believer? Look at Matthew 5:23-24, and Eph. 5:21. Think of someone who chronically opposes and irritates you. What will you do to change that relationship this week?

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#### Discussion Questions

1. Why is quarreling so destructive to any Christian relationship? What do people tend to quarrel about? Is there any way we can disagree politely but firmly with someone without quarreling?

2. Paul says we should present ourselves to God as a workman who correctly handles the word of truth. Usually a workman gets training in their vocation, so they can correctly handle the tools of their trade. How can we get training in handling the truth? Name some practical ways that we can practice discerning the truth?

3. Paul also warns us about "godless chatter". How would you define that? What are some ways that we can remove ourselves, or stop from being drawn into, godless chatter? Why is godless chatter so unhelpful among groups of believers?