



MESSAGE: GARY DARNELL

MUSIC: BEN WONG & BROOKE THIELEN

DATE: JULY 4, 2021

Preparation & Execution of Good Works Inside the Local Church
2 Timothy 2:22-26

Review: A clean believer is a believer “ready for every good work”!

***2 Tim. 2:21** Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from what is dishonorable, he will be a vessel for honorable use, set apart as holy, useful to the master of the house, ready for every good work.*

Avoid the foolish longings of youth (22a).

***2 Tim. 2:22** So flee youthful passions and pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace, along with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart.*

Aim to live out godly character instead (22b).

***2 Tim. 2:22** So flee youthful passions and pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace, along with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart.*

Never engage in non-biblical speculations (23-26).

1. How do we identify “foolish, ignorant controversies” (23)?

***2 Tim. 2:23** Have nothing to do with foolish, ignorant controversies; you know that they breed quarrels.*

- a. They have no grounding in Scripture & are opinion based.
- b. By their nature they stir up controversy & destructive debate.

2. How do we engage with those who oppose the truth (24-25a)?

***2 Tim. 2:24** And the Lord’s servant must not be quarrelsome but kind to everyone, able to teach, patiently enduring evil, **25a** correcting his opponents with gentleness. ...*

- a. Don’t get sucked into the debate (24a).
- b. Rather, kindly endure the foolishness while teaching the truth clearly and pointing out the wrongs humbly (24b-25a).

3. What's our goal in engaging those who oppose the truth (25b-26)?

a. To see a change of heart in regard to their error (25b).

***2 Tim. 2:25b** God may perhaps grant them repentance leading to a knowledge of the truth,*

b. To witness a deliverance from Satan's clutches (26).

***2 Tim. 2:26** and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, after being captured by him to do his will.*

***2 Cor. 2:11** so that we would not be outwitted by Satan; for we are not ignorant of his designs.*

***Eph. 6:11** Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.*

***Eph. 6:17** and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God,*

For Reflection:

- 1. Think of a time when you have either observed or entangled yourself in a controversy with other believers. Did it produce the life of God, or division and bitterness?**
- 2. Based on your "average week", make a plan to relentlessly pursue the life of God (righteousness, faith, love, peace). What habits or patterns do you need to break or establish to prevent you from chasing after immature attitudes and desires?**
- 3. Paul mentions a number of godly qualities that believers can & need to acquire; they are righteousness, faith, love, peace, and a pure heart (v 22) along with not being quarrelsome, kind, patient, and gentle (v 24-25).**
 - a. Select one or two of these you feel you have already developed to some measurable degree. Try to identify when and how they developed.**
 - b. Now select one or two you would like to develop more fully. What steps can you take this week to develop them? What Scripture might you use to help in the process?**

SONGS

"Cannons" – Phil Wickham

"Reign Above It All" – Ethan Hulse, Hannah McClure, Jess Cates, and Paul McClure

"Cornerstone" – Eric Liljero, Reuben Morgan, Edward Mote, Jonas Myrin

"Living Hope" - Brian Johnson and Phil Wickham

BUDGET

GIVING LAST WEEK: \$34,275.00

WEEKLY NEED: \$35,272.00

YTD GIVING: \$825,074.99

YTD GENERAL NEED: \$917,072.00