

1 Timothy

CHAPTER 6:1-10

Lesson 12

Some historians have estimated that half of the population of the Roman Empire was composed of slaves. This presented a new problem in the church. Paul addressed the equal *honoring* required between *bond slaves* and *masters*. May we see the similarities as we apply these teachings to how we are to honor one another regardless of social status. Paul then moved on to those who taught contrary to God's word for the purpose of personal *gain*. Again, may we apply these truths to our own lives as we seek the things that truly satisfy.

Read 1 Timothy 6:1-10

1. Read through this week's verses using at least two different Bible translations or paraphrases. After reading through these verses, what would you say to someone if they asked you what they are about?

2. The contrasting word, *but*, is used three times in this section. Choose one instance of its use and record what is being contrasted.

Read 1 Timothy 6:1,2

1. Although we no longer practice slavery in this country, it was an accepted form of service at the time of this writing. The controversy lay in Paul's insistence of the relationship between the *bondservant* and his *master*. This thinking applied only in the realm of Christianity. How were *bondservants* to count their own masters?
 - a. In what ways might a *bondservant* honor his master?
 - 1.) What does Ephesians 6:5-8 say that amplifies this?
 - 2.) How might the manner of honoring a master, compare to honoring an employer?
 - b. What is the reason a *bondservant* should honor his master?
 - 1.) In what ways can insubordination cause *the name of God* to be mis-represented and ill spoken of?
2. What instructions were given regarding *masters* in 1 Timothy 6:2?
 - a. How can dishonoring a master *blaspheme the name of God and His doctrine*?
 - b. Verse 1 used the phrase, *under the yoke*. What did Jesus say about His *yoke* in Matthew 11:30?
 - 1.) What are some ways a *master* or employer might apply Jesus' example?

Read 1 Timothy 6:3-5

1. Paul exhorted Timothy in verse 2, *Teach and exhort these things*. In verse 3, Paul wrote of those who would *teach otherwise*. Paul claimed to not be speaking his own opinion, but whose *words* did Paul claim to be using?
 - a. What is your understanding of the phrase, *doctrine which accords with godliness*?

 - b. How does this help you to desire to follow these commands when you are tempted to do otherwise?
 - 1.) What is your responsibility when seeking advice?

2. List the words and phrases used to describe those who *do not consent to doctrine which accords with godliness*.
 - a. In what ways does this behavior lend to erroneous teaching?

 - b. According to the last part of verse 4, what are the results of this kind of behavior?

 - c. Using James 3:13-18, describe *wisdom* that comes from God and *wisdom* that does not.

3. 1 Timothy 6:5 continues listing the results of teaching that does not adhere to God's truths. What are they?
 - a. Notice what they *suppose*. Why can we not pursue *godliness* for personal *gain*?
 - b. Where does true *godliness* come from? (2 Peter 1:3)
4. What did Paul tell Timothy to do about those who did not teach *doctrine which accords with godliness*?

Read 1 Timothy 6:6-8

1. In contrast to their motive for supposed *godliness*, Paul defined one of the true *gains* of *godliness*. What is it?
 - a. Why is the combination of both *godliness* and *contentment* *great gain*?
2. Record the words of Proverbs 15:16.
 - a. What *troubles* can accompany the ill-gotten gain of *great treasures*?
3. How have you found Psalm 37:16 to be true?
4. Ponder Paul's statement in 1 Timothy 6:7. What are your thoughts?
 - a. Thoughtfully consider Matthew 6:19-21. What *treasures* can we send ahead to heaven?

1.) How is your heart affected by your *treasures*?

Personal: Do a quick inventory of what your *treasure*. What did you discover?

5. According to 1 Timothy 6:8, with what should we be *content*?

a. These are two items we do not have to worry about attaining. Why? See Matthew 6:31-33

6. 1 Timothy 6:3 highlighted those who did not teach *doctrine which accords with godliness*. Paul stated in verse 5 that this supposed godliness *to be great gain*. In verse 6, Paul linked true *contentment* with true *godliness*. What can we learn from Paul's teaching regarding *godliness*?

Read 1 Timothy 6:9,10

1. This section begins with a word of contrast. Those who seek true *godliness* experience true *contentment*. *But* what is the result experienced by those who *desire to be rich*?

a. How do ungodly desires cause us to fall in these ways?

2. Define the words:

temptation

snare

