

Session





Personal Study Guide

Gospel Difficulty - Part 1


September 6, 2020


Introduction/Ice Breaker


 When have you or someone you know faced opposition because of belief in Jesus? How did you (or the person you know) respond?

 What are some reasons for opposition to the Christian faith and persecution in the world today?


1. Detailed Description and Clear Instruction (2 Tim. 3:1-5)


 Why do you think the threat of false teachers was such a serious issue? What was the fundamental problem that they created?

 How did Paul describe the false teachers? Do you see any themes? Which characteristics jump out at you? How might this provide warning for false teachers we encounter today?


 Application: How can you discern between false teachers and faithful teachers? What helps has God given to help us be aware and able to avoid falling into the trap of a deceiver?

2. Tactical Advances (2 Tim. 3:6-8)


 What issue did Paul describe in detail? What are some patterns today that might lead people in the church to succumb to false teaching?

 Application: How might others in the early church have helped defend the women spoken of in these verses from these dangers? How might this weakness be avoided today? What responsibility does the church have to one another in these matters?


3. Folly Revealed (2 Tim. 3:9)


 What did Paul say at the end of this passage that would bring Timothy comfort?


 How might this bring us encouragement today when it feels as if false teaching threatens to overtake the church, despite efforts to continually teach the truth?

 Application: In what ways does God's sovereignty give us peace and rest? Where do you currently feel like you are striving in your own power but need God's power? How are you encouraged by the truth in this verse today?

Conclusion

 What are some ways you might have unconsciously let false teaching have influence over your life? How are you encouraged to return to truth from today's study?

 What can we as a group and as a church do to point one other to the truth and to defend against false teaching in our midst?

 How does a commitment to speaking the truth with one another and sharing the gospel with others help in this effort?

Daily Readings

- Monday - 2 Timothy 3:1-9
- Tuesday - John 14:6
- Wednesday - 1 Timothy 4:1

- Thursday - Jude 1:3-4
- Friday - 2 Peter 2:1-3
- Saturday - 1 Thessalonians 5:21