



Unit 12 Guide

SERIES: LESSONS FROM THE CHURCH **THE MESSAGE OF THE CHURCH** **1 Timothy 6:1-20**

Announcements and opening prayer.



Connect: an opportunity for people to immediately interact and connect with each other; icebreaker/attention getters. **Icebreaker:** If you could design the perfect employee, what would he/she look like?

Transition: This passage is focused on the message of Christian responsibility.

The Bottom Line: God wants us to find contentment in Him and fight the good fight of faith, being a witness of the Truth you hold on to.

LESSON PLAN



Denotes “Apply”

Read 1 Timothy 6:1-2

Paul begins by pointing out what a good slave would look like. How does that relate to you and me? (*We are bond-servants to our employers because we choose to sell them a portion of our time.*)

1. What is expected of the Christian slave?
 2. What was the purpose of this teaching from God?
- 🌐 To slander meant to blaspheme, to hurt the reputation of someone. How could being disrespectful to your employer cause God's name and the teaching of His truth to be slandered?
- 🌐 How does that happen in the modern-day work place?

3. How does Paul say they should treat a Christian master?
4. Why would you go to an extra mile for the Christian master?
- ⑤ How could a Christian serve a non-Christian boss with more respect than they give a Christian employer?

Read 1 Timothy 6:3-10

5. If someone teaches doctrines that contradict Scripture, how does God view that person?

We live in a time period where people embrace truth based upon their experience. If they have felt something deeply, then it must be true, even if it contradicts a teaching of Jesus. Emotions should come from truth, not truth from emotions!

6. What does their conceit produce?

On Board:

- **Envy** – (PHTHONOS – to be filled with malignant will or spited against someone who had defeated us. Hostility toward someone who wins the argument.)
- **Strife** – (EPIS – bitter discord, constant bickering. There is no desire to settle an argument but to just keep picking away at those who disagree with you. No one is allowed to hold a different opinion than you. It is a dogmatism that demands your opinion becomes law, not opinion. Ask – **How do Christians get caught up in EPIS, strife?**)
- **Malicious talk** – (BLASPHEMIAI – Blasphemy; It is out of envy and strife that is not settled that abusive language is born. Insults, bitter accusations are made in harsh and abusive language directed at those who will not agree with the one speaking. The really sad thing to God is that these are almost always from small and unimportant matters that have nothing to do with salvation.)
- **Evil suspicions** – (PONERAI, EVIL & HUPOVOIAI, SUSPICIONS – The envy, strife & malicious talk now leads to suspect that the opponents every word, gesture and action must be evil. They assume that the person disagreeing with them must be influenced not by the love of truth, but by their worldliness.)
- **Constant friction** – (All this ends up in constant friction. DIAPARATRIBAI – It is the idea of rubbing and rubbing a place until a blister appears, then a sore, then an infection. Ask – **How is that still true today? What does God expect of us when we see that? Do not share in it! Go to the brother in private and help them see what they are doing. Show them this Scripture. You may save the church and their soul!**)

Did you ever think that false doctrine does not have to be simply distorting the plan of salvation? What else could be false doctrine?

⑥ These divisive people were not only corrupting the truth of Scripture to design their religion, but they were using it to gain wealth. How has that happened since those early days in Ephesus?

7. Where does the real gain come from when we pursue godliness?

8. What is the love of money?

⑥ What are some ways money is not evil?

⑥ What are some of the ways Christians who want to get rich can fall into temptation if they are not extremely wise?



Interactive Teaching Ideas: ideas for learner-focused teaching. Ask the class to discuss at each table the following assignment to share: Build a plan on how to keep pursuing godliness with contentment while building a future for your family.

Read 1 Timothy 6:11-16

9. How is the man or woman of God to combat this temptation that can overpower their true faith?

⑥ How do you run towards the fight of good faith?

10. We are given this command, the charge to run to the battle. The command is given in the sight of God and the Lord Jesus and we are to keep it without spot or blame. What imagery do we see and how does it clarify what God is telling us about focusing our lives?

⑥ **Read verses 14-16 again with great emotion. Then ask, “What do these words evoke within you?”**

Read 1 Timothy 6:17-21

11. What command is given to those Christians who are wealthy?

12. What final instruction is given to Timothy, the preacher at Ephesus?



CARING TIME: SHARE AND PRAY

Close with a Prayer Time: *“Living the Word”*. Close in prayer for our focus to be driven by our love for Christ and His church!



Going Deeper/Homework:

Memory Verse: “The world and its desires pass away, but the man who does the will of God lives forever” (1 John 2:17).

