

Life Group Discussion Guide

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
ADVENTURE OF A LIFETIME
1 TIMOTHY 4:13-16
Stuart Jones - January 29, 2017



INTRODUCTION

It can be very easy to watch a new believer become baptized, then not give any thought to how that person will learn to become more like Jesus. It is our job to help them realize the road does not end at baptism but begins there.

In Timothy 4:13 (NASB) Paul challenged Timothy to devote himself "to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, and to teaching." This tells us studying the Bible is one of the most important means God has given us by which we can grow in our relationship with Him. He has also given us prayer and the church to help us accomplish the same goal.

DISCUSSION STARTER

1. What has been one of your biggest adventures in life? Tell the group about it. Why would you call it an adventure?
2. Have you ever had a big life event that gave you a total perspective change (birth of a child, near death experience, defeated cancer, etc.)? If so, tell the group about it.

EVALUATE IT

1. Stuart said, "There's a difference between admirers of Jesus and disciples of Jesus." What is the difference? What is an admirer of Jesus and what is a disciple of Jesus?
2. Read John 10:10. Stuart said, "If I will just have a Bible, pray before meals, go to church most of the time, give 10% and not cuss, then I'm a disciple." Do you think Jesus had that in mind when he spoke the words John recorded in 10:10? Why or why not?
3. Read 1 Timothy 4:13-16. Paul told Timothy to be diligent and persevere. Who would benefit from Timothy's diligence and perseverance? How?
4. Stuart said, "When our hearts are changed, we begin to see our world, our life, our activities, our community, our relationships with a Jesus perspective." What can we do to develop a Jesus perspective? What does that process look like?

MAKE IT PERSONAL

1. Are you living an oversimplified life as a Christ Follower or are you experiencing the exhilaration of being close to Christ? Why or why not? How can you move from oversimplified to exhilaration?
2. Like Timothy, who in your world could be affected by your own diligence and perseverance?

ILLUSTRATION

Ray Stedman told me he was sitting in his home one evening and he noticed there was a meeting of homosexuals in Palo Alto, California. He thought, "I'm gonna go to that meeting." He went in, and everyone sat on the floor. I think he had an intern with him. Nobody knew who anybody else was. As a group they were railing on the church and railing on Christians and their attitude toward them—just that sense of militance and hatred and on and on.

Then the speaker asked, "Does anyone have anything else they want to say?" So Ray stood up (bless him). He stood up and said, "My name is Ray and I'm a citizen of this city. I'm one of the Christians you've been talking about. I'm sorry for the treatment you've received from many of my brothers and sisters. We meet down here at Peninsula Bible Church and all of you are invited, whoever would want to come." He went on, "I want all of you to know that there is one ray of hope, and it is the hope that will bring for you the relief and the life you need."

Of course there was disagreement and discussion back and forth. But I thought, "What a markable thing to do. Would you have done that? Would I?"



Interested in joining or starting a Life Group?
Contact our Life Groups Minister.

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