**BCM Bible Study - 4/6-4/7, 2022**

**1 Timothy 6:2b-21**

Introduction: In this passage, we will see warnings regarding false teachings and the love of money. We will also receive encouragement to let go of the desires of this world and follow God with all that we have.

**Read 1 Timothy 6:2b-10**

* How have you seen the truth in the bible obscured to sound almost correct but not entirely?
* Like Timothy, we are also called to stand in obvious contrast to false teachings and embody the truth.
  + What are ways we struggle to stand boldly against false teaching or things that go against the values of our faith?
  + How can we overcome these struggles to stand firm in the faith?

When a teaching in the bible seems inconvenient or difficult to uphold, there can be a tendency to make excuses for it and/or not place a large emphasis on obeying said teaching. What are ways you minimize or discount what the bible teaches?

* Looking at verse 3 and thinking back to chapter 4:7-8 of last week, we see the importance of godly training and how it is more important than physical training.
  + What are ways we should “godly train” in order to combat periods of spiritual difficulty?
* How do you handle seeking after God, yet not finding or feeling contentment?
  + What are you holding on to too tightly in your life?

**Read Matthew 19:23-26** and reference verse 8. We only need food, clothes, and God. There is not a need for an abundance, “Just our daily bread”. Our desire for more clouds us from being content with what we have. How do we make sure to not get wrapped up in the consumerism that is so rampant in our culture?

* Think of a time when you were super focused on obtaining worldly gain or success. Did this come to fruition?
  + Was this as fulfilling as you expected?
* What are some areas in your life currently where you pursue worldly success to find contentment rather than in the Lord?

*(Pay attention to verses 9 and 10.)* Paul also notes that idolizing money leads to a destructive road. This implies that the love of money not only affects us in money, but will spill into other areas of life. So, if we start accepting sin in one area of our life, we will start becoming lenient with sin and more susceptible to temptations in other aspects of our lives.

* Why do you think the “love of money is the root of all kinds of evil”?
* Bearing in mind the potential consequences of following wealth, worldly success, and contentment, how do we stay on guard to keep God the focus of our lives?
  + What are some things you may need to let go of or work through to achieve this?

**Read 1 Timothy 6:11-16**

* Like Timothy, we also belong to God and need to run from sin to instead pursue God wholeheartedly.
* Bearing this in mind, how does this impact our attitude towards entertaining sin and pursuing a godly life?
  + Why does Paul highlight pursuing faith, love, perseverance, and gentleness along with pursuing a godly life?
* What areas have you been complacent in when it comes to sin?
  + What is keeping you from letting God enter these areas?
* Would outsiders be able to look at our lives and see a reflection of a Christian walk or a worldly way of life?

**Read Isaiah 6:1-4** and looking at 15-16, how do we balance and navigate the fact that our God is personal yet incredibly holy?

**Read 1 Timothy 6:17-21**

* Again, we are reminded to not trust in our money. The end of verse 17 says, “… But their trust should be in the living God, who **richly gives** us all we need **for our enjoyment**.”
  + How has God not only satisfied a basic need but richly provided for our enjoyment?
* In conjunction with verses 18-19, **read** and consider **Matthew 6:19-21.**
* What would it look like for you to have a more eternal mindset and store treasures in heaven?
* Are you generous and ready to share the things God has given you?
  + God has shared and given everything to us despite how undeserving we are.

Challenge: Meet with someone and talk about an area of your life you are struggling to give to God. Identify what that area is and why you are struggling to let go of it. Perhaps the person you meet with can help hold you accountable in the process of giving this area to God.