

2 Timothy 2:15 – 26

New American Standard Bible 1995

1 **What theme ties this passage**
2 **together? What is Paul’s**
3 **point? How does it relate to**
4 **your life?**

5 _____
6 ¹⁵ Be diligent to present yourself
7 approved to God as a workman
8 who does not need to be
9 ashamed, accurately handling
10 the word of truth. ¹⁶ But avoid
11 worldly *and* empty chatter, for
12 it will lead to further
13 ungodliness, ¹⁷ and their talk
14 will spread like gangrene.
15 Among them are Hymenaeus
16 and Philetus, ¹⁸ *men* who have
17 gone astray from the truth
18 saying that the resurrection has
19 already taken place, and they
20 upset the faith of some.
21 ¹⁹ Nevertheless, the firm
22 foundation of God stands,
23 having this seal, “The Lord
24 knows those who are His,” and,
25 “Everyone who names the name
26 of the Lord is to abstain from
27 wickedness.”
28 ²⁰ Now in a large house there
29 are not only gold and silver

30 vessels, but also vessels of
31 wood and of earthenware, and
32 some to honor and some to
33 dishonor. ²¹ Therefore, if
34 anyone cleanses himself from
35 these *things*, he will be a vessel
36 for honor, sanctified, useful to
37 the Master, prepared for every
38 good work. ²² Now flee from
39 youthful lusts and pursue
40 righteousness, faith, love *and*
41 peace, with those who call on
42 the Lord from a pure heart.
43 ²³ But refuse foolish and
44 ignorant speculations, knowing
45 that they produce quarrels.
46 ²⁴ The Lord’s bond-servant must
47 not be quarrelsome, but be kind
48 to all, able to teach, patient
49 when wronged, ²⁵ with
50 gentleness correcting those who
51 are in opposition, if perhaps
52 God may grant them repentance
53 leading to the knowledge of the
54 truth, ²⁶ and they may come to
55 their senses *and escape* from
56 the snare of the devil, having
57 been held captive by him to do
58 his will.

Inductive Bible Study

(A few general ideas)

Observation (**What does it say?**)

*What facts do you **observe** that help bring out the writer's thought process?*

- Who are the people involved?
- What action takes place?
- What type of literature is it (poetry, history, didactic, etc.)?
- What details are included or left out?
- Are any unusual words used?
- Is there symbolic language?
- Are words or ideas repeated?
- Any comparisons or contrasts?
- Any cause and effect?
- Any indications of purpose (“in order that...”, “so that...”)?
- Any conclusions (“Therefore...”)?
- Any explanations?
- Does the passage logically break into sections?

Interpretation (**What does it mean?**)

*What questions come to mind that would help you **interpret** the meaning?*

- How would the original readers have understood the passage?
- What is the main emphasis?
- Why is there repetition, or contrast, or unusual words?
- Does grammar or structure point to the writer's thought pattern?
- Is there a logical sequence in the passage?
- How are different ideas connected?
- Are any new ideas or concepts presented?
- Are there difficulties in the passage?

Application (**What does it mean for me?**)

*What is the impact on your life? What **application** does the Holy Spirit want to show you?*

- Is there a command to obey?
- Is there a promise to be thankful for?
- Is there an attribute of God to worship?
- Is there an example to follow?

Read nothing into the Scriptures, but draw everything from them, and suffer nothing to remain hidden that is really in them.

**Johann Albrecht Bengel
(1687-1752)**

For a much more detailed description of the methodology, see

• *Kay Arthur, How to Study Your Bible. Eugene, Oregon: Harvest House Publishers 1994.*

• *Robert A. Traina, Methodical Bible Study. Wilmore, Kentucky: Asbury Theological Seminary, 1952.*

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