

# 1<sup>st</sup> Timothy 6

## Message by Ps Barry (29/8/10)

### Opener

- Say something about 'contentment'.

### Discussion

As a group, read through 1<sup>st</sup> Timothy 6.

1. What does 1<sup>st</sup> Timothy 6:1-2 have to say about work and how we go about it?
  - What are some ways that we can apply this to various life/work situations this week?
2. As a group, work together to paraphrase what 1<sup>st</sup> Timothy 6:3-5 is saying.
  - Especially in relation to v.5b "...who suppose that godliness is a means of gain." How do we communicate God and the benefits He gives us without getting wrongly caught up in presenting the benefits?
  - In small groups, come up with a few scenarios of how you can 'rightly' communicate about God in a setting which you may encounter in the course of living for Jesus and seeking to make Him known. Then briefly share these with the whole group.
  - Selah or discuss: 'I once loved the Blessor, now I'm caught up with the blessings.' How easy is it to become like this? And how can we guard against this or get out of this if we have become like it?
3. As a group, work together to paraphrase what 1<sup>st</sup> Timothy 6:6-8 is saying.
  - Especially in relation to v.6 "Serving God does make us rich, if we are satisfied with what we have." (NCV) In what ways does God make us rich and what comes to mind as you meditate on this scripture and its application in our lives?
  - In the KJV v. 6 reads: "Now godliness with contentment is great gain." How would you define 'contentment' in this context?
  - What do the following verses add to our understanding of godliness and contentment?
    - 1<sup>st</sup> John 2:15-17
    - Philippians 4:11-13
4. As a group, work together to paraphrase what 1<sup>st</sup> Timothy 6:9-10 '**is and isn't**' saying.
  - What dire warning do these verses give and how can we ensure we heed it in the way we live our lives?

5. As a group consider the key points of advice given in the following verses and discuss how we can apply them in our lives.
- Flee – v. 1 –
  
  - Pursue – v.11 –
  
  - Fight - v.12 –
  
  - Take hold – v.12 –
  
  - Keep – vv.13-16 –
  
  - Command – vv.17-19 –
6. Selah or discussion: Consider Luke 12:48 and what it has to say to people that are well off...to see it as a 'testing' and not as a 'blessing'. Ponder or discuss its application to our lives.

## **Conclusion**

7. Invite the group to re-cap what has been covered.
- What is one thing from this discussion that has challenged you and that you would like to focus on with God's help this week?
  
  - Provide prayer for this and / or accountability as requested.