

“Love Lifted Me Recovery Ministries”

Second Timothy Bible Study — II Timothy 2:22- 26 Lesson #7

****INSTRUCTIONS:** Read the entire section of Scripture in Second Timothy before starting to look up the other Scripture verses and filling in the blanks. Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to give you understanding as you read God’s word. Most Scriptures used are from the New King James Version.

22 **FLEE also youthful LUSTS; but PURSUE righteousness, FAITH, LOVE, PEACE** with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

•**Psalm 34:12-14** “Who is the man who desires _____, and loves many days, that he may see _____? Keep your _____ from _____, and your lips from speaking guile. _____ from _____, and do _____; seek _____ and _____ it.”

•**John 10:10** “The thief (Satan) does not come except to _____, and to _____ and to _____. I have come that they may have _____, and that they may have it more _____.”

•**James 3:17-18** “But the wisdom that is from above (from God) is first pure, then _____, _____, willing to yield (humble, submissive), full of _____ and good _____, without partiality and _____ hypocrisy. Now the _____ of righteousness is sown in _____ by those who make _____.”

Definition: “Do GOOD; seek PEACE” – This is another part of the “formula” for the good life that God would give to us. The opposite of peace is strife and bitterness. Bitterness hurts MANY MORE people than just the one who is bitter. Many family dysfunctions and generational sins begin as a ROOT of BITTERNESS in someone’s life, which then passes down to their families in the form of more DYSFUNCTIONS, ADDICTIONS, and other problems.

•**Hebrews 12:14-15** “Pursue _____ with all men, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord; looking diligently lest anyone fall short of the grace of God; lest any root of _____ springing up cause _____, and by this many become _____.”

•**Philippians 4:5-9** “Let your _____ be known to all men. The Lord is at hand. Be _____ for _____, but in everything by _____ and supplication, with _____, let your _____ be made known to God; and the _____ of God, which surpasses all understanding, will _____ your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatever things are _____, whatever things are _____, whatever things are _____, whatever things are _____, whatever things are _____, whatever things are _____, report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy – meditate on these things. The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of _____ will be with you.”

•**Isaiah 26:3** “You will keep him in perfect _____, whose mind is stayed (focused) on _____.”

•**John 14:27** “_____ I leave with you. My _____ I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not _____ your _____ be _____, neither _____ it be _____.”

Definition: “YOUTHFUL” — Not all sins begin to manifest in childhood or adolescence, so you may THINK that certain problems in your life are not “youthful” lusts. It may SEEM that certain habits appeared in adulthood, but if we examine our lives honestly and thoroughly, we will see that

most, if not all, of **our destructive habits and modes of behavior had their SEEDS planted in our youth.** For instance, **fear of rejection** and peer pressure in adolescence, or **lack of love and approval** from parents in our childhood, may have caused us to search for answers and “look for love in all the wrong places.” Experimenting with sexuality in childhood or adolescence may bring problems later in adulthood, as it may then erupt as a pornography addiction or dissatisfaction with a marriage, and seeking sexual relationships outside of marriage.

• **Matthew 5:27-28** “You have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not commit _____,’ but I say to you that whoever _____ at a _____ to _____ for _____ has already committed _____ with her in his _____.”

Definition: “LUSTS” — Lusts means issues, probably originating in childhood, that are controlling your life. A lust is the need to have something “under your control,” and yet that need seems to **never be satisfied.** We tend to think of “lusts” as sexual desires, or possibly as ALL fleshly, bodily desires, but the word can mean ANY DRIVING FORCE in your life. “Youthful lusts” would then be **driving forces or hungers** caused by circumstances that influenced you in your childhood or adolescence. These could be any number of things: lust for food, because food represents comfort or happy memories from your childhood (or you didn’t get enough food); lust for position, power or wealth (hoarding material possessions) because you never had these things, or your parents influenced you TO WANT these things in childhood. Lust for LOVE and AFFECTION can interfere with your ability to form real friendships or have a good marriage, as you CLING to the other person with a death grip (co-dependency), because you did not get enough love, affection or attention as a child. Lust for success, because you did not get the recognition you wanted or needed growing up; or lust for recognition and popularity, because you did not fit in, or were an “outcast” in your childhood. The list could go on and on, but the main thing to be aware of is HOW and WHEN these desires were forged in your life, and to recognize that they are deceptive and false desires. **Ephesians 4:22 calls them “deceitful lusts.”** They are DECEITFUL because we THINK indulging them will make us happy, but in reality it DOESN’T. These desires and lusts belong to the “old man” - who you were before you were BORN AGAIN and BORN ANEW into God’s family. **“But pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace” - it is NOW time to follow after and PURSUE the family traits and characteristics of your NEW FAMILY, the FAMILY of GOD!**

• **Ephesians 4:22-24** “That you _____, concerning your _____ conduct, the old man, which grows corrupt according to its _____, and be _____ in the spirit of your _____; and that you put on the _____, which was _____ according to God, in _____ and true holiness.”

• **Colossians 3:10** “And have _____ the _____ who is renewed in knowledge according to the _____ of _____ who _____ him.”

23-26 But **avoid foolish and ignorant disputes**, knowing that they generate strife. And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel, but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient, **in HUMILITY CORRECTING those who OPPOSE THEMSELVES**, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth, and **that they may come to their senses and escape the snare of the DEVIL**, having been taken CAPTIVE by him to do his will.

• **I Timothy 6:20-21** “Oh, Timothy! Guard what was committed to your trust, _____ the _____ and _____ and contradictions of what is falsely called knowledge – by professing it, some have strayed concerning the _____. Grace be with you. Amen.”

• **Titus 3:9** “But _____ foolish disputes, _____, contentions,

and strivings about the law; for they are unprofitable and _____."

Definition: "In HUMILITY CORRECTING those who OPPOSE THEMSELVES" — Have you ever felt like you were your own worst enemy? That is what it means to OPPOSE YOURSELF - you end up doing things that are ruining and destroying your life, and you don't understand why you are doing them, or you just don't know how to stop. God's word here in Second Timothy says **REPENTANCE and a KNOWLEDGE of the TRUTH (rightly dividing the word of truth)** are the **KEYS** to ESCAPING the SNARE of the DEVIL. For those of us who are trying to CORRECT people's wrong ideas, **we must do it HUMBLY, with HUMILITY.**

• **Galatians 6:1-3** "Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any _____, you who are _____ restore such a one in a spirit of _____, considering yourself lest _____ also be _____. Bear one another's _____ and so _____ the _____ of _____. For if anyone _____ himself to be _____, when he is _____, he _____ himself."

Definition: "THINKS himself to be SOMETHING, when he is NOTHING, he DECEIVES HIMSELF"

– This is referring to **PRIDE, the opposite of HUMILITY.** The person who is full of himself (**"THINKS himself to be SOMETHING"**), **PRIDEFUL**, and conceited, is self-deceived. He can't see clearly or judge situations clearly, because **his pride gets in the way.** We must ask God to examine us and our motives to make sure we are not **doing things out of pride and selfish motives.** The Bible has a lot to say about self-examination and confession of our sins. We need to examine ourselves, for instance, because God wants us to have a healthy self-esteem, but not to be puffed up with pride and conceit. Our motives, even in doing something good, may be warped by self-centeredness. We may need to ask ourselves, "Why am I helping this person? Do I hope to get something out of it? Does it make ME feel better or feel "superior" to be "fixing" someone else?"

God tells us that **if we will JUDGE or EXAMINE ourselves,** we will not be judged in the sense of being corrected and disciplined by Him. Many times **we need a REALITY CHECK, because we don't think we have a problem with pride,** or anger, or envy, or any other "negative emotion" or sin.

Pride can be thinking you are better than others, but it can also be just **holding onto your own will - YOUR right to make YOUR OWN decisions,** instead of turning your will over to God completely.

• **I Corinthians 3:18** "Let no one _____ himself. If anyone among you seems to be wise in this age (full of worldly pride), let him become a fool that he may become wise."

Definition: "YOU who are SPIRITUAL" – To describe someone as "spiritual" in the biblical sense means a person whose life is under the control of the Holy Spirit, and not their own flesh. If we are going to try to restore a brother or sister who has fallen into sin ("overtaken in any trespass"), we'd better not be in the flesh, or we will make the whole situation worse! **Those who are trying to restore another Christian who has fallen into sin MUST BE under the complete control of God's Holy Spirit** in order to give godly advice that will help the one who is being counseled.

• **Romans 8:6-7** "For to be carnally _____ is death, but to be _____ is life and _____. Because the _____ is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be."

• **I Corinthians 2:14-16** "But the natural (unsaved) man does not receive (understand) the things of the _____ of God, for they are _____ to him; nor can he _____ them, because they are _____ discerned. But he who is _____ judges _____ things, yet he himself is rightly judged by no one. For 'Who has known the _____ of the Lord that he may instruct Him?' But we have the _____ of _____."

• **Colossians 3:1-2** "If then you were _____ with Christ, _____ those _____ which are _____, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. Set your _____ on things _____, and not on things on the _____."

Definition: "That they may COME to their SENSES" — The Prodigal Son in Jesus' parable came to his senses, or "**came to himself.**" For the Gadarene demoniac (Mark 5:15), after Jesus cast out the demon, it says he was "**in his right mind.**" However you say it, it means the person was OUT of THEIR MIND or INSANE before coming BACK to their senses or right mind. What do we do when we practice our addictions? **Step 2" says it is INSANITY**, and the A.A. definition of insanity is "doing the same thing over and over, and expecting different results."

• **Luke 15:17-19** "But when he _____ to _____, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough to spare, and I perish with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, "_____, I have _____ against heaven and before you, and I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants.'" And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his _____ saw him and had _____, and ran and fell on his neck (hugged him) and _____ him."

NOTE: We see how the prodigal son's thinking was not all the way clear yet, because he thought his father would only receive him back as a slave, and not as a son. The father in this parable represents God the Father, so **we have the word of Jesus Himself** that our Heavenly Father wants to receive us back from whatever "far country" we have wandered to, whenever we come to our senses. **You may not have had a good earthly father**, but your Heavenly Father wants to hug you and kiss you and welcome you back into His house as soon as you are ready.

I John 1:9 tells us how to return to the Lord after we have sinned.

• **I John 1:9** "If we _____ our _____, He is _____ and just to _____ us our _____, and to _____ us from _____."

Definition: "ESCAPE the SNARE of the DEVIL" — Hearing and studying the WORD of TRUTH certainly brings deliverance and freedom (John 8:32), but there are times when you may need another Christian to **SPEAK the WORD of God with AUTHORITY** against any demons that may have you bound (captive). No human person can deliver you - **Jesus Christ is the DELIVERER.** However, a more mature Christian may MINISTER Christ's deliverance to you by the anointing of the Holy Spirit. Especially in areas of fear, doubt, lying, and some sexual sins, there may be a "spirit of fear" or a "spirit of doubt" or a "lying spirit" or an "unclean spirit" that needs to be dealt with. In some cases, there may be a "spirit of grief" from something that happened in childhood, or loss of a loved one, that is **causing depression** in adulthood. This doesn't mean you are demon-possessed, but only that demonic influence or strongholds have built up in your life. When God's laws are violated and "deceitful lusts" are indulged or practiced over a long period of time, **it produces BONDAGE or STRONGHOLDS in your life**, and demonic oppression may be involved (see Mark 9:21-22). **Luke 4:18** "The _____ of the _____ is upon _____, because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor, He has sent _____ to _____ the _____, to preach _____ to the _____, and recovering of sight to the blind; to _____ at _____ those who are _____."