

Discipleship in Today's World

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I. Introduction

A. If there is any key word in the world today it is "confusion."

B. Text: 2 Timothy 3.

II. Contemporary conditions.

A. We are more polarized than ever before.

B. People blame it on conditions, restrictions, and everything else besides sin.

C. There is confusion because of sin that has infected our society from top to bottom.

III. Consequences of sin.

A. Sin alienates from God. Life turns empty when one cuts oneself off from the meaning of life.

B. Sin alienates us from one another. We are in conflict with one another because of it.

C. Sin enslaves us from ourselves.

1. Today self-discipline is being held in contempt.

2. It has become okay to sin as long as one is honest about it.

D. An enormous evil influences us - the Devil. (1 John 3:8)

E. Our battle is against evil spiritual forces, not people or institutions. (Ephesians 6:12)

F. There is true guilt and false guilt. We should respond properly to the former.

IV. Our response. (Luke 21)

A. We have been told all along about the dark times to come - we should not be afraid.

1. We are to look to heaven in the dark times because our redemption is drawing near.

2. We are to take heed to ourselves unless we slip into immorality and cares of the world.

B. We are to be holy men in light of the end times. (2 Peter)

1. Christ came to save sinners. His heaviest burden was to forgive sins.
2. Billy Graham's success is attributed to his having a clean conscience before God and man. (Acts 24:16)
3. We cannot be salt and light with sin.
4. Salt is silent - it subdues the noise of the world. (Isaiah)

C. We are to pray. (Luke 18:1)

1. If we do not pray, we will faint.
2. Prayer is an act of desperation - a declaration of dependence upon God.

D. We are to continue in Scripture. (2 Timothy 3)

1. This is the basic guide for life.
2. Scripture is the creed to believe and the cause to follow. (Proverbs 29:15)

Application questions.

1. What is all the confusion about in the world. Why is it being attributed to the wrong things?

2. What three ways does Jesus teach that believers should respond?

3. Which of Jesus' commands do you find yourself the weakest in? How will you respond this week to build better habits?
