

THE ART OF LIVING WELL PARTICIPANT GUIDE September 13, 2020 Week 1 Reading Plan

<u>Day 1</u>-

READ: 1 Timothy 6:3-21

REFLECT: Contrast the picture of false teachers in verses 3-10 with the picture of godly men and women in verses 11-19. How does Paul entrust Timothy to pastor/lead believers in the church at Ephesus?

PRAY: Imagine Paul praying over you and your family- insert your name in verse 20, and as the Lord to teach you over the next days and weeks what it means it to "take hold of that which is truly life."

TAKE IT FURTHER!

LISTEN: Epistles (letters) were meant to be read aloud and listened to in their entirety. Try it today! List to an <u>audio version of 1 Timothy</u> while you drive, fold laundry, or enjoy creation on this autumn day. Note how chapter 6 fits in with the overall message and tone of Paul's letter to young Pastor Timothy.

Day 2-

READ: 1 Timothy 6:17-19; Micah 6:8

REFLECT: How do you define *rich*? Do you consider yourself *rich in this present age*? Why or why not? How much does comparison to others' play into your definition and view of yourself? What do these passages teach about being humble?

PRAY: Use <u>Psalm 131</u> to lead you into prayer- reorient your trust in the Lord as you calm and quiet your soul.

TAKE IT FURTHER!

WATCH: Dave Ramsey's "<u>Life, Money, and Legacy</u>" on RightNow Media. [If you need a *free* RNM account, sign up <u>here</u>.]

<u>Day 3</u>-

READ: 1 Timothy 6:17-19; Psalm 20:7;



REFLECT: Make a list of the top goals and priorities for your life right now. As you reflect on that list and on the scripture passages ask yourself- is my hope in God or something else? Is my confidence, my trust based solidly in Him or something/someone else?

PRACTICE: Create a **dream board** for yourself/ your family! What is your vision? What are your goals? Where do you want your money to go? How do you want your money to impact others? Brainstorm. Be specific. Do a google search for "financial freedom dream boards" to find more inspiration. Include your spouse. Include your kids. *Invite the Lord to help you dream His dreams for your life!*

Day 4-

READ: <u>1 Timothy 6:17-19</u>; <u>Acts 20:35</u>

REFLECT: What are your goals for your "wealth"? Do you consider giving it away a priority? Whether you want to share it or not, why is it hard to actually do good, to be ready and generous?

PRAY/ PRACTICE: What small step can you take *today* to share your riches for the good of someone else? Ask God to give you a generous heart!

TAKE IT FURTHER!

REFLECT: It is not enough for the wealthy to give money to charity, although of course there is a place for that. What God demands first is active service. It is one thing to pay for someone else to feed the hungry or care for the sick; it is another thing to feed the hungry yourself, or to dress a sick man's wounds. Rich Christians are called to do both... -Philip Ryken

Day 5-

READ: 1 Timothy 6:17-19; Matthew 6:20; Jeremiah 9:23-24

REFLECT: Paul tells Timothy to instruct "those who are rich in the present age" so that "they may take hold of that which is truly life." What do you think Paul means by that? How do Jesus' words in Matthew and the Lord's words to Jeremiah help you discern your next step toward true living?

PRAY: Praise God for his steadfast love, justice, and righteousness. Humbly ask Him to grow your knowledge and understanding of Him so that you might make wise decisions today and tomorrow and the next day...