

# 2 TIMOTHY 3:1-9

## TIME ALONE WITH GOD

LESSON 5

### GROUNDING YOURSELF

Begin your time alone with God by reflecting on the HOPE we have in Jesus. What has God used recently to remind you of the HOPE we have in Him? Take a moment to thank Him for that gracious reminder.

### GRASPING THE SCRIPTURES

**Read 2 Timothy 3:1-9** (feel free to look up a few different translations)

-After reading this passage, what is one word you would use to describe your response to it?

-Paul states that, in the last days, people will be... and he proceeds to list attributes that people will exhibit during the last days. Then, in verse 5, Paul warns Timothy to have nothing to do with such people. Using this information, what can you assume about the *last days*?

-In verses 1-5, count how many descriptors are listed. Which one jumps off the page to you? Why?

-What might it mean to have a "form of godliness?" (vs 5)

-In his sermon, "When a Lover of Good Thinks About Evil," John Piper states in response to 2 Timothy 3:6:

*"Evil is insidious. It creeps toward the weak. Weak women, weak men, weak children. That's what evil does. Evil is not going up against the strong women, men and children. Evil will snoop out the person with the least discernment...The task of the church is to make men and women and children mighty in the Word of God. Bible-saturated in the Word of God so that women and men stand against the wiles of the devil."*

-How does verse 7 reinforce Piper's claim that evil seeks out a lack of discernment?

-Paul mentions Jannes and Jambres in verse 8. The Jewish Talmud tradition claims that these are the names of the magicians who opposed Moses in the presence of the Pharaoh (see Exodus 7:11). Why do you think Paul mentions these two men? What point might he be trying to make?

-Do you find evidence of HOPE in this passage? If so, where?

### GETTING YOUR HANDS DIRTY

Take a few minutes and watch John Piper's sermon entitled "When a Lover of Good Thinks About Evil." After watching the sermon, write down a question that you have or a quote from the sermon that you'd like to research a little more.

You can search this 47-min sermon on YouTube or follow the link from the lesson by going to [www.fellowshipnorth.net/2Timothy](http://www.fellowshipnorth.net/2Timothy) and selecting Lesson 5.

USE THIS LESSON TO PREPARE FOR THE WEEK BEGINNING SUNDAY, OCT 29

# 2 TIMOTHY 3:1-9

## TIME WITH OTHERS

LESSON 5

### GLEANING INSIGHT FROM OTHERS

#### **To work through with a small group**

*We encourage you to begin your time by reading through the passage aloud and closing your time in prayer with one another.*

- When you were younger, who was your hero? Why did you admire that person?
- Share with your group the descriptor (from Question 2 on the front side of this sheet) that stands out to you.
- How do these attributes of people in the last days stand in stark contrast to what Jesus identified as the two greatest commandments (see Matthew 22:36-40)?
- Why is it important to study passages like this?
- What's something from this week's time in 2 Timothy that has left a mark on you? (something you need to think about more, something you want to talk with someone about, something you want to put into practice, etc)
- In the "Getting Your Hands Dirty" section on the front side of this page, you were given the option to watch a sermon by John Piper regarding this passage. If you watched it, what questions or quotes are you intrigued by and want to know more about?

### GUIDING OTHERS

#### **To work through with Family & Friends**

*The idea behind this section is to give parents a few questions they could talk through with their kids at the dinner table or while tucking them in at night. But this is not limited to parents of young children. These questions could be discussed with folks of any age.*

#### **Read 2 Timothy 3:5 (ERV)**

"They will go on pretending to be devoted to God, but they will not let their 'devotion' change the way they live. Stay away from those people."

#### **Talk about it:**

1. What would a person who pretends to be devoted to God act like?
2. If someone is truly devoted to God, how might their lives be different from the person who is pretending?
3. Why does Paul tell us to stay away from people who pretend?
4. When we remember the things God has done for us, it inspires us to be devoted to Him. What is something God has done for you?

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