

Discussion Guide for Living Hope: Part 17

1. Review the sermon outline.

What parts of Sunday's lesson did you find helpful, enlightening, unclear or troubling?

2. Truth: The first church had an amazing evangelistic impact and persecution quickly followed. As persecution began and escalated, the church resolved to please God rather than man no matter what and to resist the censorship of the Christ's message.

Read 2nd Timothy 2:22-26

- What terms does Paul use to describe the opponents of Christianity in 2:24-26?
- What are the attitudes that are to govern our debate with these evil satanically enslaved opponents?
- What is prescribed offensive strategy in 24-25?
- Why might truth teaching be a great setup for God doing the His rescuing work described in 2:25-26?
- Why is kindness, patience and gentleness against rabid opposition difficult?
- What is the danger of diverting from the prescribed kindness, patience and gentleness?
- What do you think of a person who habitually loses their cool? Does it enhance or diminish their argument in your eyes?
- What are some strategies that you use to keep your cool with a very irritating or disrespectful person?
- What is the reason for engaging hostile unbelievers in 2:26?
- How have you seen kindness, patience and gentleness "win" an argument or win over the person arguing?