

Perspective: Truth
2 Timothy 4:1-5 Discussion Questions

1. According to 2 Timothy 4:3-4, what is the problem?
2. The first step in the downward process is a distaste for the truth (v.3a). What are some of key biblical teachings that often cause people to have a distaste? Why?
3. The second step in the process is replacing the truth with something that is false (v.3b). What are some examples of popular ideas today that have replaced biblical truth?
4. The third step in the process is rejecting the truth and wandering off into myths (v.4). It was mentioned that everyone has a faith system or a worldview and everyone either believes in the truth or in a myth. Would most people agree with this assessment? Explain.
5. Have you experienced someone leaving the faith? Did they seem to follow this downward process?
6. The solution to the problem is that Timothy is supposed to “preach the word” (v.2). What does it mean to preach the word?
7. Why do you think many pastors and churches have made the task of preaching a secondary responsibility instead of the primary responsibility? Have you seen examples of pastors/churches that have done this well/poorly?
8. There is a sense in which certain people are called to this unique task of preaching the word. But there is also a sense in which all Christians are called to speak the truth. How do you think about this distinction?
9. What does it mean to “be prepared in season and out of season” (v.2)? Have there been times when you felt like speaking God’s word and times when you didn’t? Have there been times when “preaching the word” has been more/less received?
10. Have you ever used the word to “reprove, rebuke, and exhort” (v.2)? Has anyone ever used the word to reprove, rebuke, or exhort you? Explain.
11. Paul calls Timothy to do the work of an evangelist (v.5). What has been your approach to sharing the gospel with others? Do you use a certain method? Is this something you enjoy?
12. We are supposed to have an urgency and preach the word out of season. At the same time, we are supposed to have complete patience (v.2) and be sober-minded (v.5). What are some examples/consequences of preaching the word but not being patient or sober-minded?
13. How does 2 Timothy 4:1 indicate the importance of the charge to preach the word? Why should this motivate us to preach the word?