



Character: The Determining Factor In What You Multiply

2 Timothy 2:14-26 (HCSB)

Remind them of these things, charging them before God not to fight about words; this is in no way profitable and leads to the ruin of the hearers. ¹⁵ Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who doesn't need to be ashamed, correctly teaching the word of truth. ¹⁶ But avoid irreverent, empty speech, for this will produce an even greater measure of godlessness. ¹⁷ And their word will spread like gangrene; Hymenaeus and Philetus are among them. ¹⁸ They have deviated from the truth, saying that the resurrection has already taken place, and are overturning the faith of some. ¹⁹ Nevertheless, God's solid foundation stands firm, having this inscription: The Lord knows those who are His, and Everyone who names the name of the Lord must turn away from unrighteousness. ²⁰ Now in a large house there are not only gold and silver bowls, but also those of wood and clay, some for honorable use, some for dishonorable. ²¹ So if anyone purifies himself from anything dishonorable, he will be a special instrument, set apart, useful to the Master, prepared for every good work. ²² Flee from youthful passions, and pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace, along with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart. ²³ But reject foolish and ignorant disputes, knowing that they breed quarrels. ²⁴ The Lord's slave must not quarrel, but must be gentle to everyone, able to teach, and patient, ²⁵ instructing his opponents with gentleness. Perhaps God will grant them repentance leading them to the knowledge of the truth. ²⁶ Then they may come to their senses and escape the Devil's trap, having been captured by him to do his will.

1. Character is a result of biblical convictions.

- The first building block of character is conviction. (2 Timothy 2:15)

Character: The will to do what is right, as God defines what is right, no matter the cost.

- Your ability to apply scripture to every area of your life will be the difference in either being approved or ashamed.

2. Character development takes a rhythm of confession and repentance.

(2 Timothy 2:21-22)

- Repentance fills grooves cut by the flesh and replaces them with grooves cut by the Spirit.

3. The true indication of godly character is gentleness. (2 Timothy 2:24)

Proverbs 16:32 (NLT)

Better to be patient than powerful; better to have self-control than to conquer a city.

- A person of character doesn't have to win every battle because they live with the settled confidence that Christ has won the war.

4. Character is the key to spiritual multiplication. (2 Timothy 2:20-21)

- God isn't going to do a great work through a dirty bowl.

5. Without character your life will crash.