

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Prayer

- *How do you need prayer for spiritual protection?*

Introduction

- This week's passage challenges us to contend to keep the faith. We will contrast the positive example of Timothy and the negative example of two false teachers from the early church.
- *When has keeping the faith felt like a battle?*

Read 1 Timothy 1:18-20

- *When has someone entrusted ministry responsibility to you? What did you learn from that experience?*
- Prophetic words of encouragement were spoken over Timothy, appointing him to ministry. *What words of encouragement from your past have helped you to live for God? Have you ever felt led to speak encouragement into someone else's situation?*
- *What can we learn from the comparison of ministry to "warfare"?*
- *What is the role of your conscience as you live for Jesus?*
- *When has your conscience felt most at peace?*
- *Do you think it is possible to have a totally clear conscience in this life?*
- *If Satan were to shipwreck your faith 5 years from now, how would he begin to tempt you in this season?*
- *Do you know someone who has had a faith crisis that we can pray for?*
- *What can we learn from the example that Paul calls out these false teachers by name?*
- Being "handed over to Satan" refers to being removed from the church. Paul does this with a hope "that they may learn." His end goal is restoration.
- *For the sake of church health, when is it wise to remove someone from membership? What would it look like to practice this in an honorable way?*

"One-Anothering"

- Each discussion guide this year will feature one of the scriptures' "one another" statements. These instructions guide us on how to love one another.
- *Bear with one another. (Ephesians 4:2, ESV)*