

Spiritual Growth

1 Timothy 4:11-16

Introduction:

●Lions

1. Mark off a territory of _____ square miles to roam
 - a. They limit the number of lions in their pride.
 - b. They look to satisfy their h_____ appetites.
2. Satan is described as a roaring lion in 1Pet 5:8
 - a. He is seeking someone to d_____ (who are these but believers in Christ – Rev 12:17)
 - b. He is roaming the entire e_____ (Rev 12:12)
3. How do we fight against such a powerful spiritual being? – by spiritual g_____.

●Spiritual growth

1. Healthy physical growth requires proper n_____, physical exercise, and adequate rest.
2. Healthy spiritual growth requires spiritual nutrition, spiritual exercise, and adequate spiritual rest.

Why is it so important to grow spiritually? (11,12,14)

●Spiritual growth is primarily for the benefit of o_____.

1. Timothy was not only to teach sound doctrine to the church but was to show himself as an e_____ to them in speech, conduct, love, faith, and purity.
2. We are all examples to many other people (list some)
 - a. Parents –
 - b. Employees –
 - c. Pastors –
 - d. Believers in Christ –

●Being an example to others in how we talk (speech)

1. Words must be designed to lift a person's s_____
2. Beware of c_____ people with words.

●Being an example to others in how we act (conduct)

1. Loving G_____ fully
2. Loving our n_____ (those around us) as ourselves
3. M_____ purity – the biggest moral issue among believers has to do with s_____ purity.

What is the standard for spiritual growth? (13,14)

- Timothy was to give attention to:
 1. The reading
 2. The exhortation
 3. The teaching
- What was Timothy to read, exhort, and teach? Although the answer is not explicitly stated in the text, the implied answer is obvious – God’s w_____.
- What was considered God’s word at the time of this letter?
 1. The e_____ Old Testament (Ps 119:11; Heb 1:1)
 2. All that Jesus s_____ while on earth (Jn 8:26-28)
 3. All that the a_____ taught (Jn 14:26; Acts 2:32)
 4. All that the apostles and prophets w_____ (2Tim 3:16; 2Pet 3:15; Eph 2:20).
- God’s word gives you proper understanding of:
 1. Who G_____ is – accept His revelation!
 2. Human n_____
 3. What salvation is all about.
 4. Principles for everyday l_____.
 5. What is sin and what is right.
- Growing spiritually:
 1. As you receiving nourishment from God’s word, this will encourage others to do the same.
 2. As you exercising the principles of God’s word, this will encourage others to do the same.
 3. As you rest in the confidence of God’s word, this will encourage others to do the same.

Conclusion:

1. Why is it important to grow spiritually? – to bring spiritual s_____ to others so that they grow spiritually and bring spiritual strength to others.
2. What is the standard of spiritual growth? – God’s _____

Spiritual growth is about all of us growing together in the bond of God’s word.