**Study Up, Stand Up and Straighten Up!**

**(2 Timothy 2:14-21)**

**The best way to recognize error is to know the truth very well. In our text today, Paul exhorts Timothy to keep working hard to know the teachings (doctrine) of God’s Word accurately so he can recognize false teaching and keep himself a “clean vessel” for the Master’s use. This can happen only if we…**

 **I. Study Up! (14-15)**

* **Pitfalls to Avoid in Study (14)**
* **Practices to Apply in Study (15)**

 **II. Stand Up! (16-18)**

* **Stand Apart from False Teachers (16-17)**
* **Stand Against False Teaching (18)**

**III. Straighten Up! (19-21)**

* **Part With Sin (19)**
* **Prepare For Service (20-21)**

**Study Up, Stand Up and Straighten Up!**

**(2 Timothy 2:14-21)**

**Small Group Discussion Guide**

**Icebreaker: What is something you enjoyed this summer?**

**1. For a brief review, read through 2 Timothy 2:1-13 and identify a few of**

 **the main points from this passage?**

**2. Read 2 Timothy 2:14-21 and share something from Sunday’s sermon**

 **that was the most interesting or challenging to you, or that raised a**

 **question.**

**3. 2 Timothy 2:15 is so well known at our church that it can lose its impact**

 **on us! How would you explain this verse in your own words? What are**

 **some important steps for good Bible study?**

**4. Since Bible scholars disagree, how can we know that we are interpreting**

 **the Bible correctly? How do you know when a doctrine is worth fighting**

 **for, and when you are merely quarreling about words?**

**5. Read and discuss 2 Timothy 2:20-21. What does someone have to do to**

 **make sure he is a vessel “fit for the Master’s use” and “prepared” to work**

 **for Him?**

**Digging Deeper**

**In the pastoral epistles (Timothy and Titus) there is a strong emphasis on**

**identifying false teaching and empty (useless) religious words. Read the**

**following passages and jot down what each one says about these things.**

**1 Timothy 1:3-7, 19-20; 4:1, 7; 6:3-5, 20; 2 Timothy 2:14, 16-18, 23; 3:5;**

**4:3-4; Titus 1:9-16; 3:9-11. Write down a couple steps you will take to make sure you know and understand sound biblical doctrine?**

**For Next Week**

**Read 2 Timothy 2, and then read verses 22-26 a couple more times. Write down observations and questions on these verses?**