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English Standard Version

2 Timothy 2:14-26

How To Be Used By God

¹⁴Remind them of these things, and^(AC) charge them before God^{[a](AD)} not to quarrel about words,^(AE) which does no good, but only ruins the hearers. ¹⁵Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved,^[b] a worker^(AF) who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth. ¹⁶But^(AG) avoid^(AH) irreverent babble, for it will lead people into more and more ungodliness, ¹⁷and their talk will spread like gangrene. Among them are^(AI) Hymenaeus and Philetus, ¹⁸who have swerved from the truth,^(AJ) saying that the resurrection has already happened. They are upsetting the faith of some. ¹⁹But God's firm foundation stands, bearing this seal:^(AK) "The Lord knows those who are his," and, "Let everyone^(AL) who names the name of the Lord depart from iniquity."

²⁰Now in^(AM) a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver but also of wood and clay,^(AN) some for honorable use, some for dishonorable.

²¹Therefore,^(AO) if anyone cleanses himself from what is dishonorable,^[c] he will be a vessel for honorable use, set apart as holy, useful to the master of the house,^(AP) ready for every good work.

²²So^(AQ) flee^(AR) youthful passions and pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace, along with^(AS) those who call on the Lord^(AT) from a pure heart. ²³Have nothing to do with foolish, ignorant^(AU) controversies; you know that they breed quarrels. ²⁴And^(AV) the Lord's servant^[d] must not be quarrelsome but^(AW) kind to everyone,^(AX) able to teach, patiently enduring evil, ²⁵correcting his opponents^(AY) with gentleness. God^(AZ) may perhaps grant them repentance^(BA) leading to a knowledge of the truth, ²⁶and they may come to their senses and escape from^(BB) the snare of the devil, after being captured by him to do his will.

2 Timothy 2:20-21

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²¹Therefore, ^(AO) if anyone cleanses himself from what is dishonorable, ^(C) he will be a vessel for honorable use, set apart as holy, useful to the master of the house, ^(AP) ready for every good work.

1. The great house is the church
2. These verses are talking about Christians who are under the truth and those Christians who do not understand Scripture correctly.
3. How can we be Christians that will please God to use?
4. We are made holy
 - a. By Christ's death on the cross and our accepting his salvation we have been made holy
 - b. When we sin we hurt our communion with God and hinder our ability to be used by Him
 - c. When we confess our sin we see our communion restored to the Father and our usefulness reinstated.
5. We must be useful to the Master
 - a. God designed us in such a way that we would be useful to his kingdom growing.
 - b. In other words we would be people who share the gospel by our words and our actions.
 - c. We must be vessels that are of gold and silver not of wood and clay
 - d. The Message version states it this way
 - i. ²⁰ In a well-furnished kitchen there are not only crystal goblets and silver platters, but waste cans and compost buckets—some containers used to serve fine meals, others to take out the garbage.

- e. When researching the meaning of the words waste can and compost buckets I found that in that time period they were referring to were the food and human waste were stored
 - f. I will let your imagination determine the grossness of that statement and how you will probably not want to be that kind of Christian!
6. Finally, we are to be prepared to do any good work
- a. We need to be ready to undertake whatever the Lord will call us to do.
 - b. If we are to be most useful to God we will find that there are ignoble practices, attitudes and ideas we must avoid.
 - c. Backbiting, Gossip, Lying, Immorality, Gluttony, are just a few to name
 - d. If you are hanging out with Christians that participate in these things – leave! Get away from them.
7. Our goal must be that we want to be used by God as much as He pleases; so we will do nothing to hinder that usage.