

# Useful for the Master

2 Timothy 2:20–21

# To be useful for the Master...

- Must be willing to suffer hardship (1–13).
- Must develop a clear knowledge of the truth, and be able to handle it properly (14–18).
- Must **flee** sin and **pursue** righteousness (19–23).
- Must have the right disposition, temperament (24–26).

# To be useful for the Master...

- Must be willing to suffer hardship (1–13).
  - Paul bracing Timothy for something in v. 1.
  - “Endure hardship as a good SOLDIER of Jesus Christ” (v. 3).
    - Persecution, brethren who turn away, people who won’t listen, etc.
    - Not very useful if we go AWOL when things get tough.
- **Encouragement** to persevere given in vv. 8–13.

# To be useful for the Master...

- Must develop a clear knowledge of the truth, and be able to handle it properly (14–18).
  - The **harm** we can do if we don't (vv. 14, 16–18, 23).
  - The **good** we can do (vv. 15, 21; 3:16–17).
    - Instruct and encourage fellow-Christians, help them grow.
    - Restore fellow-Christians who have gone astray.
    - Convict the lost, show them the way of salvation.
    - Develop more teachers, influence future generations.

# To be useful for the Master...

- Must **flee** sin, **pursue** righteousness (19–23).
  - Can't be like those described in 3:5.
  - Titus 2:5, 8, 10.
  - “If then your whole body is full of light, **having no part dark**, the whole body will be full of light, as when the bright shining of a lamp gives you light” (Luke 11:36).

# To be useful for the Master...

- Must have the right disposition, temperament (24–26).
  - Humble, gentle, patient, genuinely concerned for the salvation of others—sound like someone we know?
  - “A bruised reed He will not break, and smoking flax He will not quench” (Isa. 42:3).
  - “Shall come with a **strong hand**...He will gather the lambs with His arm, and carry them in His bosom, and gently lead those who with young” (Isa. 40:10–11).