

1 Timothy 6:1-8

Memory Verse: 1 Timothy 6: 6-8 But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that.

Begin your Bible study with prayer, confessing any sins you know of, thanking the Lord for the gift of His Word and asking the Holy Spirit to guide your study.

Insight: Slavery was widespread in the Roman Empire (according to some estimates, slaves constituted one third, perhaps more, of the population) and an accepted part of life. In Paul's day, slavery had virtually eclipsed free labor. Slaves could be doctors, musicians, teachers, artists, librarians, or accountants; in short, almost all jobs could be and were filled by slaves. The New Testament nowhere directly attacks slavery; instead, Christianity undermined the evils of slavery by changing the hearts of slaves and masters. By stressing the spiritual equality of master and slave the Bible did away with slavery's abuses. (John MacArthur)

Read 1 Timothy 6:1-8

1. Why should all slaves honor their masters? vs 1. See also Eph 6:5-8
2. Why are masters who are believers more worthy of honor? vs 2
3. Read Colossians 3:11-12. What do you learn about how God views slaves?
4. In verse 3, Paul gives three characteristics of false teachers. What are they?

5. How does Paul describe these false teachers in verses 4-5?

6. Read 2 Peter 2:1,2 Why are false teachers so dangerous?

7. Verse 6 says, "Godliness with contentment is great gain." Using a dictionary or other resource, describe contentment in your own words. How does contentment relate to godliness?

8. Read 2 Peter 1:3. *What do you learn about godliness here?*

Application: After praying for conviction and insight, answer the following question: In what areas of your life do you struggle to be content with God's provision? *Read Matthew 6: 28-33.* As followers of Christ, where should our focus be and how does this encourage you to be content?

End your study by thanking the Lord for what you have learned this week and ask Him to help you apply the truths you have learned.

For further study: Read the following verses and write down what you learn about true contentment.
Phil. 4:11-13, 19; 2 Corinthians 9:8