

Life in Community
A Community of Cautious, Humble Inquiry
1 Timothy 6:3-5

- I. A Return to the False Teachers (3)
 - A. See also 1 Timothy 1:3-11
 - B. “Sound words” = healthy, not sick
 - 1. Of our Lord Jesus Christ – the fullness of the gospel message
 - 2. That message which promotes godliness
 - 3. A healthy doctrine that leads to healthy modeling of Jesus
- II. The Real Problem with Most False Teaching – Character (4-5)
 - A. Conceited – puffed up
 - B. Yet, ignorant – lacks understanding
 - C. More interested in speculations and word battles than the promotion of godliness under the gospel
 - D. Why are these often “bad?”
 - 1. They come from a heart of envy
 - 2. They produce strife
 - 3. They produce “blasphemies” (abusive language)
 - 4. They promote “evil suspicions” – in other words, people in community find it hard to trust one another
 - 5. It creates friction in the community (unnecessarily)
 - E. These men’s minds are depraved and deprived of the truth
- III. How Should We Then Pursue Complex, Possibly Controversial Issues in Community?
 - A. First, with a Christocentric focus
 - B. Second, with a spirit of humility and compassion
 - C. Third, we should be able to give proper weight to issues based on theological and transformative significance (the death and resurrection of Jesus VS. the application of grace VS. eschatology)
 - D. Fourth, we should not approach any issues in isolation, but with the knowledge that Biblical truth is not given to “me.” Biblical truth is given to “us.”
 - F. These men pursue leadership as a means of pursuing greed (an immediate red-flag against the entire health-wealth-prosperity movement)