

Living Above the Fray

Intentional Living in an Eclectic Age

2 Timothy 2:22-26

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²² Flee the evil desires of youth, and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart. ²³ Don't have anything to do with foolish and stupid arguments, because you know they produce quarrels. ²⁴ And the Lord's servant must not quarrel; instead, he must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful. ²⁵ Those who oppose him he must gently instruct, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to a

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knowledge of the truth, ²⁶ and that they will come to their senses and escape from the trap of the devil, who has taken them captive to do his will.

A Duty

- Internal: Personal pursuit
 1. What to flee
 2. What to pursue
 - Righteousness
 - Faith
 - Love
 - Peace

A Duty

3. In community

- External:
 - Not quarrelsome
 - Teaching
 - Respecting
 - The objective

An Attitude

- Be bold but not quarrelsome
- Be
 - Kind
 - Forbearing
 - Gentle
 - *Suaviter in modo, foriter in re*
 - Gentle in manner, resolute in purpose

A Context

- The sovereignty of God
 - “in the hope that”
 - “I planted, Appollos watered, but God was causing the growth”.
1Cor 3:6
- An awareness of the greater battle
- Leads to greater dependence

To Go . . .

- Are you a fighter?
- Are you a chameleon?
- How knowledgeable are you regarding the “Truth?”
- What would please Christ?
- How does/should our awareness of the spiritual worldview impact the way that we approach those with whom we disagree?