

Living Above the Fray

The Good Life: According to Paul

2 Timothy 3:6-13

2 Timothy 3

⁶ They are the kind who worm their way into homes and gain control over weak-willed women, who are loaded down with sins and are swayed by all kinds of evil desires, ⁷ always learning but never able to acknowledge the truth. ⁸ Just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, so also these men oppose the truth—men of depraved minds,

2 Timothy 3

who, as far as the faith is concerned, are rejected. ⁹ But they will not get very far because, as in the case of those men, their folly will be clear to everyone.

4 Characteristics of those who are easily deceived

1. They are weak-willed.
2. They are loaded down with sins.
3. They are swayed by all kinds of evil desires.
4. They are always learning but never able to acknowledge the truth.

A Difficult Reality Check

- Ignorance is not bliss.
- Not everyone who claims to represent God is of God.
- The test of truth is not fideism.

2 Timothy 3

who, as far as the faith is concerned, are rejected. ⁹ But they will not get very far because, as in the case of those men, their folly will be clear to everyone.

¹⁰ You, however, know all about my teaching, my way of life, my purpose, faith, patience, love, endurance, ¹¹ persecutions, sufferings— what kinds of things happened to me in

2 Timothy 3

Antioch, Iconium and Lystra, the persecutions I endured. Yet the Lord rescued me from all of them. ¹² In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, ¹³ while evil men and impostors will go from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived.

Four check points for life

1. Content
Teaching
2. Conduct
Way of life
Purpose

Four check points for life

3. Character

Faith

Patience

Love

Endurance

Four check points for life

4. Consistency
 - Persecutions
 - Sufferings

4 lessons to consider

- The importance of the content that is believed.
- How belief impacts actions.
- Attitudes matter.
- The need for consistent commitment

To Go . . .

- How do you distinguish between truth and falsehood?
- Would you be willing to suffer for the gospel?
- What commitments and attitudes are you modeling for the younger generation?