

Living Above the Fray

Approved by God

2 Timothy 2:14-15

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¹⁴ Keep reminding them of these things. Warn them before God against quarreling about words; it is of no value, and only ruins those who listen. ¹⁵ Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth. ¹⁶ Avoid godless chatter, because those who indulge in it will become more and more ungodly.

Is this relevant for you?

⁷ Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not men, ⁸ because you know that the Lord will reward everyone for whatever good he does, whether he is slave or free.

Ephesians 6:7-8

Is this relevant for you?

²² Slaves, obey your earthly masters in everything; and do it, not only when their eye is on you and to win their favor, but with sincerity of heart and reverence for the Lord. ²³ Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, ²⁴ since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving. ²⁵ Anyone who does wrong will be repaid for his wrong, and there is no favoritism.

Colossians 3:22–25

Approved by God Because:

1. They have a hunger for the word of God

What Does the Lord desire

Love God

1. No other gods
2. No idols
3. Do not misuse God's name
4. Keep the Sabbath holy

Love Others

5. Honor parents
6. Don't murder
7. Don't commit adultery
8. Don't steal
9. Don't lie
10. Don't covet

A necessary distinction

- I didn't know.
- I didn't want to know.
- Willful ignorance is not an excuse.

Approved by God Because:

1. They have a hunger for the word of God
2. They have a desire to know what the word means.

Meaning = the search for true truth

²⁴ Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete. John 16:24

⁷ If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. John 15:7

Approved by God Because:

1. They have a hunger for the word of God
2. They have a desire to know what the word means.
3. They have a desire to conform to the pattern of the word.

To Go . . .

- Whose approval do you ultimately seek?
- What pleases the one whose approval you seek?