

## **General**:

- Why do you think understanding the cultural and historical context of Scripture matters for interpreting what it says today?
- What's one step you can take to better understand the cultural and historical setting of the Scriptures you read (e.g., study notes, commentaries, Bible studies, etc.)?
- When you hear that Artemis worship shaped the culture of Ephesus, how does that change your understanding of why Paul wrote what he did to Timothy?
- Before hearing this message, how did you typically think about "the last days"?

  Has your perspective changed? How can this understanding help you focus more on transformation than on timelines?
- How do you respond when you see corruption or hypocrisy within the Church? Do you tend to disengage, criticize, or seek renewal?
- Paul contrasts false teachers with his own example in verses 10-11. Who has modeled authentic faith and perseverance for you like Paul did for Timothy?
- Verse 12 says that "all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted." What does persecution look like in your context today?

## Take Home 1: Let's make sure we aren't doing the enemy's work (2 Tim. 3:2-5)

- Pastor Chip explained that "accuser" (in Greek) is where we get our English word
  categories, meaning the enemy divides us by labeling and dehumanizing people.
   When you think about how easily we "put people in boxes" (by politics,
  denomination, race, class, or personality), how might that reveal we're falling for the
  enemy's tactics instead of living out the Gospel?
- Paul lists traits such as selfishness, pride, greed, and lack of love. Which of these do
  you see most clearly shaping our culture today? Which ones have you personally felt
  tug at your own heart?
- Pastor Chip always says: "You can't be right with God and wrong with people."
   What does it look like for you to pursue being "right with people" this week?

## <u>Take Home 2:</u> Realize the Christian life is not a promise for everything to go perfect (2 <u>Tim. 3:12)</u>

- When you think about following Jesus, do you expect ease or endurance? Why do you think many believers are surprised when life gets hard?
- In what ways have seasons of hardship actually drawn you closer to Christ or revealed His presence more clearly?
- How can persecution actually become a form of fellowship with Christ—sharing in His sufferings instead of avoiding them?
- Pastor Chip reminded us: Don't be surprised, keep your eyes toward Heaven, and remember the mission. Which of these three reminders do you most need right now? Why?

## <u>Take Home 3</u>: <u>Let us all commit to recognizing the importance of the Word of God (2 Tim. 3:15)</u>

- How has God's Word shaped who you are becoming, not just what you know?
- In what ways does knowing Scripture guard us from false teaching or cultural drift?
- What's one step you can take this week to deepen your engagement with God's Word? (Reading? Memorizing? Discussing? Obeying it?)