

The Word, Not Words

2 Timothy 2:14-19

We need to focus on the Word, not on words.

1. Our ongoing need for the Gospel (v14a)

2. The Problem Side: words (v14b, 16-18)
 - a. Word fights (v14)
 - b. Irreverent babble (v16)
 - c. Case in point (v18)

3. The Solution Side: The Word (v15, 19)
 - a. The approved worker (v15)
 - b. The foundation stone (v19)

FOR FURTHER THOUGHT

1. “Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words...” How were you taught to complete that sentence? How has it worked out in your life? How else might you choose to complete it?
2. “Word-fights” are like sword-fights, but deadlier since they can lead to eternal consequences. What are some of the word fights we’re seeing these days? Name some issues. How is culture influencing these arguments? What is the effect on the lives of people? What is the effect on the church?
3. How can we grow in our ability to “rightly handle the word of truth” (v15)? What are some ways in which you can build God’s Word into your life? Share some practical insights that have been helpful to you.
4. Read 1 Corinthians 3:1-15. What’s the context (v1-9)? Who are the “builders” that Paul is referring to (v9)? What is the only foundation (v10-11)? What is the warning Paul gives (v10-15)? How does this passage tie in with James 3:1?
5. Read Numbers 16. What issue did Korah have with Moses (v3)? What was Moses’ response (v4)? What did God do? What does this chapter have to contribute to our understanding of godly leadership?
6. Read James 1:19-21. Find it in a couple different translations. How do we need to respond to the Word of God when it confronts us? What implications do you see in that for your own life? For the church?