

# sermon notes

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Pastor Tony Caffey, VBVF | Second Timothy  
Sept 8, 2024 | “A Few Good Men” | **2 Timothy 2:20–26**

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*God is looking to enlist servants who are...*

1) \_\_\_\_\_ (2:20–21)

2) \_\_\_\_\_ (2:22)

3) \_\_\_\_\_ (2:23–24a)

4) \_\_\_\_\_ (2:24b–26)

## Questions for further application of God’s Word:

### GO DEEPER

Read 2 Timothy 2:20-26. What is Paul illustrating with the “vessels of the house” analogy? What are the “dishonorable” things that Paul wants us to cleanse ourselves from? Who does the “master of the house” represent in the illustration?

Interact with the following quote from Wayne Grudem: “Sanctification is a progressive work of both God and man that makes Christians more and more free from sin and more and more like Christ in their actual lives.” How is a person “set apart as holy” (i.e. sanctified) for the Lord’s work? Is sanctification God’s work or is it our work? What are some Bible verses that speak of sanctification as God’s work? What are some verses that speak of sanctification as our work? Access the following video and article by Iain Duguid to help you think through this issue:

<https://www.crossway.org/articles/do-we-play-any-role-in-our-sanctification/>

What does Paul present as the best-case outcome of Timothy’s interaction with his opponents (2:25–26)? How do humility, kindness, longsuffering, and gentleness contribute to this best-case outcome? Why is it important for a servant of God to demonstrate these qualities, even if it doesn’t lead to repentance among his opponents?

### GET PERSONAL

What are some “youthful passions” that God would have us flee? Why is it important that we not only “flee youthful passions,” but also “pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace?” What are some youthful passions that sometimes get the best of you in your spiritual walk? How do you flee from them?

List some foolish, ignorant controversies that breed quarrels. How do you distinguish between foolish, meaningless controversies and important controversies that require taking a stand for Christ? Why is it important that the Lord’s servant not be quarrelsome? Why is it important that the Lord’s servant be longsuffering? Are you a quarrelsome person? Are you a longsuffering Christian?

### ADVANCED QUESTION

Compare and contrast Paul’s use of a “vessel analogy” here with Romans 9:21–24 and 2 Corinthians 4:7? Are these analogies communicating the same central idea? If so, what is that central idea? If not, how do they differ? Should Paul be expected to use this analogy in the same way all the time?