

Study: A Useful Vessel

Text: 2 Timothy 2:20-21

OUR PURSUIT

Mission Statement: *to passionately serve GOD and to compassionately serve others—ALL to the glory of GOD!*

Review: The study on Romans 12 that we just concluded emphasized our worship in serving the Lord. This must be our focus as we seek to be a New Testament church that seeks to bring honor and glory to God.

Today, I would like to start a series of messages that the Lord has laid on my heart. This series will focus on a goal that I want to keep before us through this year which is being a “Useful Vessel.”

Ephesians 5:15-17

Memory verse: 2 Timothy 2:21 If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet [*useful*] for the **Master’s** use, and prepared unto every good work.

Q: Are you willing?

The Biblical goal / pursuit of the Christian is Christ likeness. One who reflects Christ is a “vessel...[*useful*] for the Master’s use.”

† Our Pursuit—To be a USEFUL Vessel (2 Timothy 2:20-21)

I. The Conditions of a USEFUL Vessel (v. 21)

A. God wants a _____ vessel

“*purge himself*” – This carries the idea of _____ thoroughly from defilement; (cf. Pro 25:4; 1Co 5:7).

“*From these*” – This is a call for _____ from those who are engage in dishonorable acts (iniquity) but also separation from iniquity itself.

Proverbs 30:5-6 Every word of **God** is pure [*without impurity*]: **He** is a shield [*a sure protection*] unto them that put their trust [*seek refuge*] in **Him**. **6** Add thou not unto **His** words, lest **He** reprove thee, and thou be found a liar.

Q: What influences are in your life that are harming your spiritual growth and in turn your usefulness for Christ?

B. God wants an _____ vessel

This word “*honor*” speaks of something of _____.

C. God wants a _____ vessel

To be “*sanctified*” is to be _____ from sin for a purpose.

We belong to God to be used for His purposes.

Cf. Acts 20:28; 1 Corinthians 6:11

D. God wants a _____ vessel

Those who are “*sanctified*” are profitable or useful to God.

Those who hinder God’s work are not useful to Him.

Consider your own words and how you treat others. Do you encourage others with your words? Do you help others grow in Godliness or are you destructive to their faith.

E. God wants a _____ vessel

This word “*prepared*” carries the idea of _____.

Q: As you consider last year, ask the Lord how useful you were to Christ. We’re you a useful vessel to the Lord?

Q: As you consider this new year, what changes do you need to make in order to be a faithful, useful vessel.

What is my next step?

(*Put off*) What must I put off that is both hinder my walk with Christ or someone else’s?

(*Renew your mind*) What qualities or Words of Christ must I meditate upon?

(*Put on*) What qualities of Christ must I seek to have as a characteristic of my life?