Mission Ready

1 Timothy 6:1-5

* The motive for the mission, 1-2
  + What is the mission? To glorify God, and enjoy Him forever
    - 1 Cor 10:31; Rev 4:11; Ps 16:11
    - Psalm 96:1-4; Psalm 67:1-7
    - Glorify God by building Christ’s Church. Mt 28:18-20; Acts 1:8
    - Does the mission change in the face of hard circumstances?
  + What about slavery?
    - Longstanding world evil
    - Not endorsed by Paul (cf. 1 Tim 1:10)
    - Equality under Christ the Judge (Eph 6:9)
    - One in Christ the Savior (Gal 3:28)
    - Characterized by love (Phm)
    - No call for revolution or bloodshed
  + Are you still on mission?
    - Regard authorities as worthy of honor, 1
      * Persecution…Comfort; temporal…ultimate
    - *So that*
      * The Name of God may not be reviled
      * The teaching (Gospel) may not be reviled
  + What about Christians?
    - Those slaves who have believing masters, 2
      * Respect your brother
      * Serve to benefit a fellow believer
      * Love
  + What would it look like for you to prioritize the mission in your hardest circumstance?
* The minister and ministry, 3-5
  + The teaching ministry
    - Teach and urge these things, 2b
      * Healthy, consistent, under Christ, godly
    - Many will teach a different doctrine, 3
      * Does not agree with sound words of Jesus
      * Does not accord with godliness
  + The minister of false faith
    - He is arrogant and ignorant, 4
    - Driven by unhealthy craving
    - Marked by controversy and quarrels
    - Fruit of this ministry:
      * Envy, dissension, slander, evil suspicions, constant friction
    - Appeals to the depraved and deprived, using religiosity for personal gain, 5

Discussion Questions

* What is your motivation for living?
* What is the most challenging environment you have been in? How did that environment reveal your actual operating principles, your deepest motivation in life?
* How does ignorance and arrogance mask a non-Christian approach to life? In what way are you marked by knowledge and humility?