

# ECCLESIA

## LIVING IN REALITY: 1 Timothy 1:18-20

### SHARINGSTORIES

1 Timothy is an excellent letter that plants seeds of reflection and challenges us to wake up and live the lives we have been designed to live. Ted has done a great job of expositing the text and leading us over the bridge to honest interaction with Paul's message. One of the themes we talked about Sunday was that of not wasting our lives. It is too easy to go with the flow, engage in diversions to keep us from thinking about ourselves, and wandering through life like a ship without a rudder. Let's begin group time by reading and discussing our thoughts re the following comments of Pascal.

Nature always keeps repeating the same things—years, days, hours; spaces, too, and numbers are in succession one after the other. Thus is formed a sort of infinity and eternity. It is not that there is in all that anything truly infinite and eternal, but these finite things are multiplied infinitely. Thus it seems to me that there is only the number which multiplies them which is infinite.

*Why is it so easy to fall into a pattern of just floating through our lives instead of living deliberately?  
What is Pascal saying about our interaction with this false eternity? How can this be dangerous?*

### DIGGINGIN

Review the first 16 verses of 1 Timothy. Now read verses 18-20.

*What theme(s) is Paul emphasizing in the first chapter?*

*What challenge is he making to Timothy specifically and to us generally?*

*What is fighting the good fight (see 1 Timothy 6:11-12)?*

*What needs to change in your life for you to better fight the good fight?*

### GOINGDEEPER

We were reminded of the importance of knowing our own stories and the ways God has gifted us to participate in loving community and sever one another.

*What are your gifts? When have you most enjoyed serving other believers? What do you want to do?*

*What needs to change in your life for you to better fight the good fight?*

### PRAYER

Spend this time discerning how best pray for one another. Praise God for one specific item and petition Him for one request on their behalf.

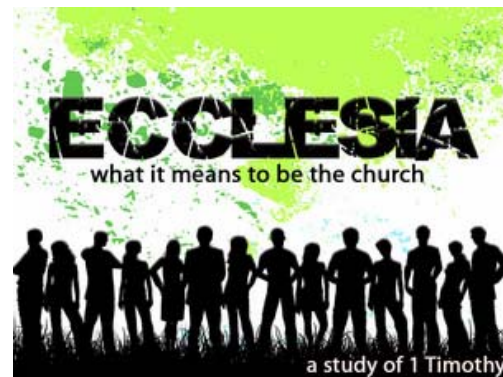
*Thank God for His provision as we close on the building tomorrow. Thanks Him for the generosity of His people. Ask Him to make the transition to the new building wonderful and a time of celebration.*

### REFLECTION

*What one idea has the Spirit impressed on your mind and heart from this passage?*

*How are you developing your faith?*

*How are you discerning the ways of your heart?*



# ECCLESIAWHAT IT MEANS TO BE THE CHURCH