

Scripture and Background Information for June 21-27

To prepare for discussion each week, group members should use the **Discussion Guide** to complete the **GOD'S WORDS** and **MY WORDS** columns using the scriptures at the bottom of this page. You will notice that we are continuing the pattern of your discussing scripture *after* the Sunday message on that passage.

Background for 1 Timothy 1:12-16

In 1 Timothy, a spiritual father, Paul, is writing to his spiritual son, Timothy. Over the course of two letters, Paul entrusts much information with Timothy. Paul reminds Timothy that false doctrine must be erased, public worship safeguarded, and mature leadership developed in Ephesus where Timothy is the primary pastor. Paul is passing the baton, and he cannot help but remind Timothy of a few things before Timothy is on his own.

In 1 Timothy 12-16, Paul reminds Timothy of his testimony. Paul reminds Timothy that his testimony is not something to be ashamed of. Instead, Paul's testimony brings glory to Jesus who graciously extended forgiveness and new life to such a sinner. Paul's testimony is a reminder to us that God makes beautiful things of broken people to bring Himself glory. And that we can make Him famous as we share our testimony.

Scriptures for the upcoming weeks:

July 28

Philippians 3:2-8

August 4

James 3:13-18