

How to be used of God

2 Timothy 2:20-21

Context: 2 Timothy is Paul's final letter. Paul calls believers to endure suffering and to live out one's faith with boldness. In chapters one and two, Paul contrasts faithful workers (1:16) with unfaithful workers (1:15).

To be used of God...

I. _____ **an honorable use (vs. 20-21)**

- a. In verse 19, Paul calls on believers to "depart from iniquity." He then proceeds to illustrate this departure using kitchen utensils.
- b. A wealthy mansion will have silverware and dinnerware made of gold and silver, and also from cheaper materials. Paul is encouraging the Christian to desire to be high value tableware.

II. _____ **yourself from what is dishonorable (vs. 21a)**

- a. The Gr. word "ekkathairō" means "to thoroughly clean out," or "to completely purge." (MacArthur Study Bible)
- b. What is dishonorable includes doctrinal and moral error, since both are in view in the letter. (ESV Study Bible)

III. _____ **ready for work (vs. 21b)**

- a. Those who depart from such errors and avoid impurity in their lives prepare themselves to be useful to the master and ready for every good work. This is a promise of blessing in the pursuit of holiness. (ESV Study Bible)
- b. Those who follow Christ and "turn away from wickedness" (v. 19) are "made holy." They are primed for action "useful to the Master." (D.A. Carson)
- c. Master. Refers to God in his total control and oversight (Luke 2:29; Acts 4:24; 2 Pet 2:1; Jude 4; Rev 6:10). The same word is used for slave-masters (e.g., 1 Tim 6:1-2; Titus 2:9). (D.A. Carson)