

**SERIES TITLE: CHURCH ON COURSE**

**PART ELEVEN: CONTENTMENT**

**TEXT: 1 TIMOTHY 6:1-10**

**INTRODUCTION.**

Timothy was a young pastor who was mentored by the apostle Paul. After Paul left Ephesus, he put Timothy in charge of organizing the churches. False teachers were endangering the mission. These teachers were speculating about obscure and less important matters, instead of preaching new life in Christ. In this letter, Paul encourages Timothy to deal with this situation and tells him how to move forward in ministry. Although addressed to one person, this letter was intended to benefit the whole church.

**DISCUSSION.**

What is the greatest source of discontent in your life?

**EXAMINATION.**

vv.1-2 Slavery in 1<sup>st</sup> century Roman culture has more in common with modern employment than slavery in 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century America. According to v.1, what are the duties of a Christian employee?

According to v.2, if your boss is a Christian, what changes and why?

vv.3-5 How do we know what sound teaching is?

vv.6-8 What is the “great gain” of godliness with contentment?

vv.9-10 What is dangerous about wanting to be rich?

How do you think the desire for wealth could cause you to fall into a trap?

**APPLICATION.**

- Describe the kind of employee a Christian should be? In other words, what should make a Christian employee stand out among the rest?
- What is the difference, if any, between enjoying money and loving money?
- What is the biggest barrier to contentment in your life and how will you address it in obedience to God?

- What truth about Jesus helps to foster contentment in your life?
- Fact: What is a key truth that you understood from this passage?
- React: What did you feel?
- Act: What are you going to do?