

# 2 Timothy 2:14-19 Lesson 7

## Are You a Word Wrangler or a Word Handler?

### Day 1: Read 2 Timothy 2:14-19 Avoid Ashamed Word Wranglers

1. Last week Timothy was urged to endure in suffering. This week, he is challenged to action. There are teachers in Ephesus who are “**wrangling about words**”. Read verse 14 and describe what this looks like today in the church. Give some specific examples. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Why might this “word wrangling” be Satan’s most successful attack against the church? Explain. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Give an example from Scripture where false teachers were using the same words, but different definitions. (Hint - several NT epistles.) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. In using the answer to number 3, what was the author’s counsel regarding these teachings? What was his counsel regarding our response to the teachers? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### Day 2: Read 2 Tim 2:14-19 Avoid Ashamed Word Wranglers

1. What is the driving force behind “word wrangling”? Is it doctrinal ignorance or cultural relevance? (Remember, Paul is not talking about immature Christians who partake in “word splitting”. He is talking about those who “wrestle with words” to change the meaning of the text.) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Today, “word wrangling” is promulgated through the postmodern philosophy, “We can’t know the truth”. What is wrong with this premise? (2 Pet 1:3, 2 Tim 3:16) What are the problems associated with this in Evangelicalism? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Look at some of the results of word wrangling. Give a modern-day example of each outcome:

a. Verse 14b - It is useless \_\_\_\_\_

b. Verse 14c - It leads to ruin \_\_\_\_\_

c. Verse 16 - It leads to further ungodliness \_\_\_\_\_

d. Verse 17 - It spreads like gangrene \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



e. It upsets the sheep\_\_\_\_\_

### Day 3 Read 2 Tim 2:14-19 Become Approved Word Handlers

1. The way to recognize and defend against “word wranglers” is to become a “Word handler.” Read verse 15 and describe in detail how you would go about becoming **“worker in the Word who is not ashamed.”** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. The saying goes, **“I learn the most when I have to teach.”** How can this statement fit with your previous answer? Where is a great place to start? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. How would you go about encouraging someone who found the Bible difficult to understand? Give some practical suggestions that might be of help. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Becoming a **“Word handler”** begins with accepting the authority and sufficiency of the Bible. How would you shepherd a young believer who unwittingly valued experience above Scripture? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Day 4 Read 2 Tim 2:14-19 Word Handlers Have God’s Seal of Approval

1. Don’t forget that Timothy is not suffering at the hands of the world, but at the hands of those in the church who claim to be believers. Explain why **“The Lord knows who are His,”** would be a comfort to him. (Matt 16:18) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. How would you go about comforting your Elder or Small Group Leader feeling discouragement in ministry? What would encourage you if you were to endure the same? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. The first seal inscription details God’s sovereignty and talks about the security of the believer. What does the second inscription describe? (v. 19) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*“Let us not mince words. If we could see more clearly God in the full blaze of His burning purity, we would not be on easy terms with all the sins that now infect our souls and breed easy compromises with the spirit of the postmodern age.”*

- David Wells “The Courage to be Protestant”

