

2nd Timothy 2:22-26

22 Flee the evil desires of youth and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

23 Don't have anything to do with foolish and stupid arguments, because you know they produce quarrels.

24 And the Lord's servant must not quarrel; instead, he must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful.

25 Those who oppose him he must gently instruct, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the truth,

26 and that they will come to their senses and escape from the trap of the devil, who has taken them captive to do his will.

Paul's main themes in his 2nd letter to Timothy:

Guard the Gospel!

Keep a firm grip on the truth.

Pass on what you've learned to others.

2nd Timothy 2:14

“Keep reminding them of these things. Warn them before God against quarreling about words; it is of no value, and only ruins those who listen.”

1st Timothy 6:3-5

“If anyone teaches otherwise and does not agree to the sound instruction of our Lord Jesus Christ and to godly teaching, they are conceited and understand nothing. They have an unhealthy interest in controversies and quarrels about words that result in envy, strife, malicious talk, evil suspicions and constant friction between people of corrupt mind...”

2nd Timothy 2:16-18

“Avoid **godless chatter** (profane & vain babblings), because those who indulge in it will become more and more ungodly.

Their teaching will spread like gangrene. Among them are Hymenaeus and Philetus,

who have departed from the truth. They say that the resurrection has already taken place, and they destroy the faith of some.”

THE CONTRAST:

FOOLISH ARGUMENTS

2nd Timothy 2:23

“Don’t have anything to do with foolish and stupid arguments, because **you know** they produce quarrels.”

Results in: FIGHTS

2nd Timothy 2:22

“Flee the evil desires of youth and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.”

**AVOID THE ARGUMENTS,
BUT NOT THE PEOPLE!**

THE CONTRAST:

FOOLISH ARGUMENTS

vs.

GENTLE INSTRUCTION

2nd Timothy 2:24-26

2nd Timothy 2:24

“And **the Lord’s servant** must not quarrel; instead, he must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful.”

2nd Timothy 2:25a

“Those who oppose him he must **gently**
instruct...”

We must engage in campaigns for truth with a **gentleness** that keeps the door open for our “opponents” to repent.

THE CONTRAST:
FOOLISH ARGUMENTS
vs.
GENTLE INSTRUCTION

“Gentle Instruction” results in (verses 25-26):

1. Repentance from Sin
2. Return to the Truth of the Gospel
3. Release from the Enemy's Trap

2nd Timothy 2:25-26

25 Those who oppose him he must gently instruct, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the truth,

26 and that they will **come to their senses** and escape from the trap of the devil, who has taken them captive to do his will.

2nd Timothy 3:16

“All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness...”

Wiersbe (Exposition Commentary of the New Testament):

TEACHING: what is right...

REBUKING: what is not right...

CORRECTING: how to get right...

TRAINING IN RIGHTEOUSNESS: how to stay right...

2nd Timothy 3:17

“... so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.”

HOMework:

STOP TRYING TO WIN ARGUMENTS THIS WEEK;
WORK TO WIN SOULS.

TALK MORE ABOUT YOUR JESUS THAN YOU
DO YOUR SOCIAL OR POLITICAL VIEWS.