

## SHIPWRECKED

*From the series – 1 TIMOTHY: EVERY MOMENT, EVERY DAY*

### SUMMARY...

We don't often think about our finish line, do we? We get caught up in the pressures of any given moment of any given day that we just don't give any thought to our finish line. Sadly, it takes a near death experience like a cancer diagnosis or a car crash to open our eyes and slow us down long enough to even consider the finish line we are headed towards. In [1 Timothy 1:18-20](#), we catch a glimpse of the finish line for two characters, Hymenaeus and Alexander. Shipwrecked. One word to describe what has happened to these two men's faith. Like any loving father would, the Apostle Paul warns his spiritual son Timothy that a shipwrecked faith awaits those who do not cling to their faith and live with a clear conscience.

### LEARN... BIBLE STUDY & DISCUSSION

1. Read [1 Timothy 1:18](#) – Why is it important to understand that the battle we are in belongs to Him? Read [Ephesians 6:12](#), [1 Peter 5:8](#) and [John 10:10](#) – What stands out to you in these passages? Why do we often dismiss or forget about the spiritual battle we are in?
2. In [1 Timothy 1:19](#), Paul gives two clear instructions to help fight the battle: Cling to your faith and keep your conscience clear.
  - i. What does it mean to cling to Jesus as the object of our faith, and what does it look like on an everyday basis? Conversely, if we cling to that which we value, how will that help us in a storm? Is there anything or anyone that you are valuing more than Jesus right now?
  - ii. Keeping or living with a clear conscience means doing the right thing every moment, every day. Read [James 4:14](#). What does James have to say about this? Is there anything in your life that you know you should or should not do, but do not follow through on? Is there an area in your life where you are going against your conscience? What are some ways in which we can grow in our understanding of 'right' and 'wrong' and living with a clear conscience?
3. Read [1 Timothy 1:20](#). What was the consequence of Hymenaeus and Alexander for deliberately violating their conscience? Excommunication from the church may seem like a severe reaction, but why should this be understood and viewed as loving decision? How might this decision lead to the restoration of Hymenaeus and Alexander?
4. Have you sensed God sending you warnings to avoid a shipwreck of your faith? How might He be trying to get your attention?

### NEXT STEP...

How can you obey messages from the Lord, namely, to spend time daily in the Word, support the mission and ministry of the church, and share your faith?