LESSON EIGHT

**The Closed Mind**

**Key Verse**

1 **Peter 5:8 -** Be of sober spirit, ([B](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Peter+5%3A8&version=NASB#cen-NASB-30461B))be on the alert. Your adversary, ([C](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Peter+5%3A8&version=NASB#cen-NASB-30461C))the devil, prowls around like a roaring ([D](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Peter+5%3A8&version=NASB#cen-NASB-30461D))lion, seeking someone to devour.

**Lesson Summary**

In 1 Timothy 4, Paul is very specific about why it is so important to keep a closed mind. With approximately ten thousand thoughts going through our brain waves every day, it is easy for the wrong things to slip in. This lesson focuses on why having a closed mind is essential to living a Christ­ pleasing life.

**Lesson Aim**

To close our minds to unrighteous thoughts as they come through various diversions, demands, and deceptions.

**Lesson Goals**

At the conclusion of this lesson, students should:

1. Be aware of Satan's deceptive attacks on God's people.
2. Realize that God's leading will never contradict His Word.
3. Close their minds to any teaching that makes demands not found in the Bible.
4. Be diligent in their growth toward godliness.
5. Understand that their testimony may affect whether or not someone spends eternity in Heaven.

**Teaching Outline**

1. A Closed Mind Guards against Heretical Deception
	1. The warfare of Satan
	2. The weapon of Satan
2. A Closed Mind Guards against Hypocritical Demands
	1. The tendency to negate biblical principles
	2. The time to nurture biblical principles
3. A Closed Mind Guards against Hopeless Diversions
	1. Guarding our minds from endless diversions
	2. Growing our minds for eternity's destination
4. A Closed Mind Guards against Hindered Diligence
	1. God's exercise program
	2. God's emphasis proclaimed
5. A Closed Mind Guards against Harmful Departure
	1. Your establishment of faithfulness
	2. Your effect on the future

**Text**

**1 Timothy 4:1-8 -** But ([A](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Timothy+4%3A1-8&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29736A))the Spirit explicitly says that ([B](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Timothy+4%3A1-8&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29736B))in later times some will [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Timothy+4%3A1-8&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29736a)]fall away from the faith, paying attention to ([C](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Timothy+4%3A1-8&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29736C))deceitful spirits and ([D](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Timothy+4%3A1-8&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29736D))teachings of demons, **2**by means of the hypocrisy of liars ([E](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Timothy+4%3A1-8&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29737E))seared in their own conscience as with a branding iron, **3**who ([F](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Timothy+4%3A1-8&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29738F))forbid marriage and advocate ([G](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Timothy+4%3A1-8&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29738G))abstaining from foods which ([H](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Timothy+4%3A1-8&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29738H))God has created to be ([I](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Timothy+4%3A1-8&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29738I))gratefully shared in by those who believe and know the truth. **4**For ([J](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Timothy+4%3A1-8&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29739J))everything created by God is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is ([K](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Timothy+4%3A1-8&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29739K))received with gratitude; **5**for it is sanctified by means of ([L](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Timothy+4%3A1-8&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29740L))the word of God and prayer. **6**In pointing out these things to ([M](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Timothy+4%3A1-8&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29741M))the brothers and sisters, you will be a good ([N](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Timothy+4%3A1-8&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29741N))servant of Christ Jesus, constantly nourished on the words of the faith and of the ([O](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Timothy+4%3A1-8&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29741O))good doctrine which you ([P](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Timothy+4%3A1-8&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29741P))have been following. **7**But [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Timothy+4%3A1-8&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29742b)]stay away from ([Q](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Timothy+4%3A1-8&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29742Q))worthless ([R](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Timothy+4%3A1-8&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29742R))stories that are typical of old women. Rather, [[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Timothy+4%3A1-8&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29742c)]discipline yourself for the purpose of ([S](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Timothy+4%3A1-8&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29742S))godliness; **8**for ([T](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Timothy+4%3A1-8&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29743T))bodily training is just slightly beneficial, but ([U](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Timothy+4%3A1-8&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29743U))godliness is beneficial for all things, since it ([V](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Timothy+4%3A1-8&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29743V))holds promise for the ([W](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Timothy+4%3A1-8&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29743W))present life and also for the life to come.

**1Timothy 4:1 -** "But ([A](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Timothy+4%3A1-8&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29736A))the Spirit explicitly says that ([B](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Timothy+4%3A1-8&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29736B))in later times some will [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Timothy+4%3A1-8&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29736a)]fall away from the faith, paying attention to ([C](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Timothy+4%3A1-8&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29736C))deceitful spirits and ([D](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Timothy+4%3A1-8&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29736D))teachings of demons"

**2 Timothy 3:13-14 -** "But evil people and impostors ([A](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+Timothy+3%3A13-14&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29854A))will proceed from bad to worse, ([B](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+Timothy+3%3A13-14&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29854B))deceiving and being deceived. **14**You, however, ([C](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+Timothy+3%3A13-14&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29855C))continue in the things you have learned and become convinced of, knowing from whom you have learned them,"

**Revelation 12:10 -** Then I heard ([A](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Revelation+12%3A10&version=NASB#cen-NASB-30890A))a loud voice in heaven, saying, “Now the ([B](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Revelation+12%3A10&version=NASB#cen-NASB-30890B))salvation, and the power, and the ([C](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Revelation+12%3A10&version=NASB#cen-NASB-30890C))kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ have come, for the ([D](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Revelation+12%3A10&version=NASB#cen-NASB-30890D))accuser of our brothers and sisters has been thrown down, the one who accuses them before our God day and night. "

**1 Peter 5:8 -** "Be of sober spirit, ([B](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Peter+5%3A8&version=NASB#cen-NASB-30461B))be on the alert. Your adversary, ([C](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Peter+5%3A8&version=NASB#cen-NASB-30461C))the devil, prowls around like a roaring ([D](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Peter+5%3A8&version=NASB#cen-NASB-30461D))lion, seeking someone to devour."

**Matthew 4:9 -** "All these things I will give You, if You fall down and [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+4%3A9&version=NASB#fen-NASB-23219a)]worship me.”

**Revelation 12:9 -** And the great ([A](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Revelation+12%3A9&version=NASB#cen-NASB-30889A))dragon was thrown down, the ([B](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Revelation+12%3A9&version=NASB#cen-NASB-30889B))serpent of old who is called the devil and ([C](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Revelation+12%3A9&version=NASB#cen-NASB-30889C))Satan, who ([D](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Revelation+12%3A9&version=NASB#cen-NASB-30889D))deceives the whole [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Revelation+12%3A9&version=NASB#fen-NASB-30889a)]world; he was ([E](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Revelation+12%3A9&version=NASB#cen-NASB-30889E))thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him."

**2 Corinthians 11:13-15 -** "For such men are ([A](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+Corinthians+11%3A13-15&version=NASB#cen-NASB-28990A))false apostles, ([B](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+Corinthians+11%3A13-15&version=NASB#cen-NASB-28990B))deceitful workers, disguising themselves as apostles of Christ. **14**No wonder, for even ([C](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+Corinthians+11%3A13-15&version=NASB#cen-NASB-28991C))Satan disguises himself as an ([D](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+Corinthians+11%3A13-15&version=NASB#cen-NASB-28991D))angel of light. **15**Therefore it is not surprising if his servants also disguise themselves as servants of righteousness, ([E](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+Corinthians+11%3A13-15&version=NASB#cen-NASB-28992E))whose end will be according to their deeds"

**1 John 4:1-6 -** Beloved, do not believe every ([B](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+John+4%3A1-6&version=NASB#cen-NASB-30592B))spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because ([C](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+John+4%3A1-6&version=NASB#cen-NASB-30592C))many false prophets have gone out into the world. **2**By this you know the Spirit of God: ([D](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+John+4%3A1-6&version=NASB#cen-NASB-30593D))every spirit that ([E](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+John+4%3A1-6&version=NASB#cen-NASB-30593E))confesses that ([F](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+John+4%3A1-6&version=NASB#cen-NASB-30593F))Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God; **3**and every spirit that ([G](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+John+4%3A1-6&version=NASB#cen-NASB-30594G))does not confess Jesus is not from God; this is the spirit of the ([H](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+John+4%3A1-6&version=NASB#cen-NASB-30594H))antichrist, which you have heard is coming, and ([I](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+John+4%3A1-6&version=NASB#cen-NASB-30594I))now it is already in the world. **4**You are from God, ([J](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+John+4%3A1-6&version=NASB#cen-NASB-30595J))little children, and ([K](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+John+4%3A1-6&version=NASB#cen-NASB-30595K))have overcome them; because ([L](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+John+4%3A1-6&version=NASB#cen-NASB-30595L))greater is He who is in you than ([M](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+John+4%3A1-6&version=NASB#cen-NASB-30595M))he who is in the world. **5**([N](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+John+4%3A1-6&version=NASB#cen-NASB-30596N))They are from the world, therefore they speak as from the world, and the world listens to them. **6**([O](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+John+4%3A1-6&version=NASB#cen-NASB-30597O))We are from God. ([P](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+John+4%3A1-6&version=NASB#cen-NASB-30597P))The one who knows God listens to us; ([Q](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+John+4%3A1-6&version=NASB#cen-NASB-30597Q))the one who is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know ([R](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+John+4%3A1-6&version=NASB#cen-NASB-30597R))the spirit of truth and ([S](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+John+4%3A1-6&version=NASB#cen-NASB-30597S))the spirit of error.

**1Timothy 4:2-3 -** "by means of the hypocrisy of liars ([A](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1Timothy+4%3A2-3&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29737A))seared in their own conscience as with a branding iron, **3**who ([B](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1Timothy+4%3A2-3&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29738B))forbid marriage and advocate ([C](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1Timothy+4%3A2-3&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29738C))abstaining from foods which ([D](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1Timothy+4%3A2-3&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29738D))God has created to be ([E](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1Timothy+4%3A2-3&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29738E))gratefully shared in by those who believe and know the truth.... "

**2 Kings 5:13-14 -** "Then his servants approached and spoke to him, [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+Kings+5%3A13-14&version=NASB#fen-NASB-9661a)]saying, “([B](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+Kings+5%3A13-14&version=NASB#cen-NASB-9661B))My father, had the prophet told you to do some great thing, would you not have done it? How much more then, when he says to you, ‘Wash, and be clean’?” **14**So he went down and dipped himself in the Jordan seven times, in accordance with the word of the man of God; and ([C](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+Kings+5%3A13-14&version=NASB#cen-NASB-9662C))his flesh was restored like the flesh of a little child, and ([D](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+Kings+5%3A13-14&version=NASB#cen-NASB-9662D))he was clean."

**John 16:13 -** " But when He, ([A](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+16%3A13&version=NASB#cen-NASB-26732A))the Spirit of truth, comes, He will ([B](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+16%3A13&version=NASB#cen-NASB-26732B))guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come."

**1 Corinthians 2:10-13 -** "For to us God revealed them ([B](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Corinthians+2%3A10-13&version=NASB#cen-NASB-28392B))through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches all things, even the ([C](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Corinthians+2%3A10-13&version=NASB#cen-NASB-28392C))depths of God. **11**For who among people knows the thoughts of a person except the ([D](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Corinthians+2%3A10-13&version=NASB#cen-NASB-28393D))spirit of the person that is in him? So also the thoughts of God no one knows, except the Spirit of God. **12**Now we ([E](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Corinthians+2%3A10-13&version=NASB#cen-NASB-28394E))have not received the spirit of ([F](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Corinthians+2%3A10-13&version=NASB#cen-NASB-28394F))the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may know the things freely given to us by God. **13**We also speak these things, ([G](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Corinthians+2%3A10-13&version=NASB#cen-NASB-28395G))not in words taught by human wisdom, but in those taught by the Spirit, [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Corinthians+2%3A10-13&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28395b)]combining spiritual thoughts with spiritual words."

**Proverbs 30:5-6 -** " Every ([A](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Proverbs+30%3A5-6&version=NASB#cen-NASB-17257A))word of God is [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Proverbs+30%3A5-6&version=NASB#fen-NASB-17257a)]pure; He is a ([B](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Proverbs+30%3A5-6&version=NASB#cen-NASB-17257B))shield to those who take refuge in Him. **6**([C](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Proverbs+30%3A5-6&version=NASB#cen-NASB-17258C))Do not add to His words Or He will rebuke you, and you will be proved a liar."

**R.A. Torrey Quote -** "God's Word is pure and sure, in spite of the devil, in spite of your fear, in spite of everything."

**1 Timothy 1:4 -** "But [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1Timothy+4%3A7&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29742a)]stay away from ([A](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1Timothy+4%3A7&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29742A))worthless ([B](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1Timothy+4%3A7&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29742B))stories that are typical of old women. Rather, [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1Timothy+4%3A7&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29742b)]discipline yourself for the purpose of ([C](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1Timothy+4%3A7&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29742C))godliness;" (1 Timothy 4:7). A good rule is: If it doesn't edify-eliminate! "nor to [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Timothy+1%3A4&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29688a)]pay attention to ([A](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Timothy+1%3A4&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29688A))myths and endless ([B](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Timothy+1%3A4&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29688B))genealogies, which give rise to useless ([C](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Timothy+1%3A4&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29688C))speculation rather than ([D](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Timothy+1%3A4&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29688D))advance [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Timothy+1%3A4&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29688b)]the plan of God, which is by faith, so I urge you now."

**1 Corinthians 6:12 -** "All things are permitted for me, but not all things are of benefit. All things are permitted for me, but I will not be mastered by anything."

**Acts 20:22-24 -** 'And now, behold, bound by the [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Acts+20%3A22-24&version=NASB#fen-NASB-27639a)]Spirit, ([A](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Acts+20%3A22-24&version=NASB#cen-NASB-27639A))I am on my way to Jerusalem, not knowing what will happen to me there, **23**except that ([B](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Acts+20%3A22-24&version=NASB#cen-NASB-27640B))the Holy Spirit solemnly ([C](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Acts+20%3A22-24&version=NASB#cen-NASB-27640C))testifies to me in every city, saying that ([D](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Acts+20%3A22-24&version=NASB#cen-NASB-27640D))chains and afflictions await me. **24**But ([E](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Acts+20%3A22-24&version=NASB#cen-NASB-27641E))I do not consider my life of any account as dear to myself, so that I may ([F](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Acts+20%3A22-24&version=NASB#cen-NASB-27641F))finish my course and ([G](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Acts+20%3A22-24&version=NASB#cen-NASB-27641G))the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to ([H](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Acts+20%3A22-24&version=NASB#cen-NASB-27641H))testify solemnly of the gospel of ([I](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Acts+20%3A22-24&version=NASB#cen-NASB-27641I))God’s grace."

**1Timothy 4:7-8 -** "... discipline yourself for the purpose of ([C](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1Timothy+4%3A7-8&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29742C))godliness; **8**for ([D](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1Timothy+4%3A7-8&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29743D))bodily training is just slightly beneficial, but ([E](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1Timothy+4%3A7-8&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29743E))godliness is beneficial for all things, since it ([F](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1Timothy+4%3A7-8&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29743F))holds promise for the ([G](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1Timothy+4%3A7-8&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29743G))present life and also for the life to come."

**Acts 24:16 -** "In view of this ([A](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Acts+24%3A16&version=NASB#cen-NASB-27775A))I also do my best to maintain a blameless conscience both before God and before other people, always."

**1 Timothy 4:1 -** "... in later times some will [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Timothy+4%3A1&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29736a)]fall away from the faith, paying attention to ([C](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Timothy+4%3A1&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29736C))deceitful spirits and ([D](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Timothy+4%3A1&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29736D))teachings of demons,"

**2 Timothy 4:10 -** "for ([A](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+Timothy+4%3A10&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29868A))Demas, having loved ([B](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+Timothy+4%3A10&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29868B))this present [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+Timothy+4%3A10&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29868a)]world, has deserted me"

**Revelation 2:4 -** "... you have ([A](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Revelation+2%3A4&version=NASB#cen-NASB-30710A))left your first love."

**1Timothy 5:15 -** "for some ([A](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1Timothy+5%3A15&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29766A))have already turned away to follow ([B](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1Timothy+5%3A15&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29766B))Satan."

**1 Timothy 4:16 -** "Pay close attention …for as you do this you will ([B](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1Timothy+4%3A16&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29751B))save both yourself and those who hear you.**"**

**Isaiah 28:10 -** For *He says*, ‘[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Isaiah+28%3A10+&version=NASB#fen-NASB-18175a)]([A](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Isaiah+28%3A10+&version=NASB#cen-NASB-18175A))Order on order, order on order, Line on line, line on line, A little here, a little there.’”

**Romans 2:24 -** " For “([A](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Romans+2%3A24&version=NASB#cen-NASB-27975A))the name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles ([B](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Romans+2%3A24&version=NASB#cen-NASB-27975B))because of you,” just as it is written."

**1 Corinthians 15:34 -** ''. Sober up [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Corinthians+15%3A34&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28740a)]morally and stop sinning, for some have ([B](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Corinthians+15%3A34&version=NASB#cen-NASB-28740B))no knowledge of God. ([C](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Corinthians+15%3A34&version=NASB#cen-NASB-28740C))I say this to your shame."

**Study Questions**

1. We must guard our minds against heretical deception. How can we do this according to 1 John 4:1-6?

2. Good things can keep us from the best things. First Corinthians 6:12 says, ''All things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any." As you review your priorities in life, do you see any areas where something good takes priority over that which is best?

3. Look at your to-do list this week. Make a list of items from your to-do list that will last for eternity. What items can you add to next week's to-do list that will have more of an impact on eternity?

4. We must guard our minds against any teaching that makes demands not found in God's Word. In light of this principle, write out Proverbs 30:5-6.

5. Read 1 Timothy 4:1. What will happen in the latter times according to this verse?

6. Relive the story of Naaman in the Old Testament. He had his own way of searching out a cure for leprosy, and when he was confronted with God's way of healing, he at first refused. Do you have any preconceived beliefs about God or His Word that may keep you from obeying what the Bible truly says (2 Kings 5)?

7. It is amazing how diligent and disciplined we can be in the areas of little importance. You may make time to watch the big game, watch the news, go to work, each lunch, work out, etc., but how diligent are you in godliness?

8. Prayerfully, you will meet people in Heaven who are there because of your prayers, giving, or testimony. However, meditate on this sobering question, "Will there be anyone in Hell because of you?"

**Memory Verse**

"Be of sober spirit, ([B](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Peter+5%3A8&version=NASB#cen-NASB-30461B))be on the alert. Your adversary, ([C](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Peter+5%3A8&version=NASB#cen-NASB-30461C))the devil, prowls around like a roaring ([D](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Peter+5%3A8&version=NASB#cen-NASB-30461D))lion, seeking someone to devour."

(1 Peter 5:8)