1 Timothy 6

Intro:

- What is Paul's reason for writing to Timothy?
 - Paul wants to instruct Timothy on how the "household" of God should be conducted (1 Timothy 3:14-15).

Read 1 Timothy 6:1-2a (the first paragraph in NIV)

What is the Bible's view on slavery?

Paul says that believing slaves shouldn't disrespect believing masters just because they are fellow believers. This suggests that Paul understood why a believing slave would be upset at a believing master: because slavery is not right. However, Paul urged them to lovingly fellowship with each other, rather than causing a rebellion of slaves that would tarnish Christ's name.

Read 1 Timothy 6:2b-10

- Based on these verses, what is the fruit of godless conversation? (*Answer: envy, strife, malicious talk, evil suspicions, constant friction... basically division and disunity!*)
- Why is it important for Christians to refrain from division and disunity?
- Paul says that godliness with contentment is great gain. What does this mean?
- What does it look like to be discontent? Where might you be discontent?
- What did the discontentment of the Ephesians bring them? What might your discontentments bring you?
- What does it look like to have wealth but not pursue it as an idol in your heart?

Read 1 Timothy 6:11-21

- How do we store up treasures for the coming age?
- Which part of Paul's final commissioning challenges you? Which part encourages you?
- How would you summarize Paul's final commissioning to Timothy in these verses?

Paul's final commissioning to Timothy can be described as "Flee from evil. Expose evil. Guard truth. Be integrous. Bring righteousness and goodness."

Application:

Write your own commissioning to this world, as if you weren't going to be here tomorrow.
And turn that commissioning into a prayer to pray for your friends, family, campus, city, and nation.