

Valley Bible Church – Sermon Study Questions

Study Aid for the Sermon from July 7-8, 2001

"Good Results from Bad Circumstances"

Observing the text

If the sinful motives of those who preach the gospel do not diminish the power of the gospel, are motives important at all? Read 1 Thessalonians 2:1-12; 1 Corinthians 9:12 and 2 Corinthians 11:7-9.

Why does Paul handle the issue of motives differently in Philippians than he does in other epistles?

If the power of the gospel to save is not diminished by the sinful motives or actions of the messenger, in what ways, if any, will our sinful conduct diminish our fruitful witness? You can use the same passages of scripture to answer the question.

Applying the sermon

Considering Philippians 1:18 what would be better in terms of Christ's kingdom, proclaiming the gospel with impure motives or not proclaiming Christ at all? Please explain.

Valley Bible Church – Sermon Study Questions

Paul showed no tolerance for impure motives in his own life in 1 Thessalonians 2:1-4. Is he communicating a lesser standard in Philippians 1:18 in respect to other believers lives? Please explain.

Take time to consider why you perform various ministries including the proclamation of the gospel. What are your motives? What impure motive do you believe you might most likely struggle with?