<u>"Running the Race"</u> <u>Loyalty to the Gospel – Faithfully proclaiming the true word of God</u> 2 Timothy 2:14-26

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1. "I can be an approved worker for God" (14-18)

A worker who is approved by God, "does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth." (v.15)

2. "I can be a cleansed instrument for the Master" (19-21)

An instrument that is cleansed by God, will be made for "special purposes, made holy, useful to the Master and prepared to do any good work." (v.21)

3. "I can be a pure servant for the Lord" (22-26)

A servant given a pure heart by God, will be "kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful." (v.24)

"Running the Race" - 2 Timothy 2:14-26

<u>Loyalty to the Gospel – Faithfully proclaiming the true word of God</u> Digging Deeper questions for small group discussion & personal reflection

Words matter

What influence do the words we hear have on our lives?

What influence do the words we say have on others' lives?

1. "I can be an approved worker for God" (14-18)

What truths about Jesus do you think we need to be kept reminded of, so we stay on track with him?

How can we avoid quarrelling & godless chatter that has a negative effect?

How has God been at work in your life by renewing your 'conscience'?

Why does a hunger for God include a hunger for the Word of God?

In what ways can God use you to speak 'words of truth' into the lives of other people, both Christians and non-Christians?

2. "I can be a cleansed instrument for the Master" (19-21)

What issues in our church do you fear might rock its foundation? What confidence can we have in God's promises for His household (see 1 Tim 3:15)?

How might you need to be cleansed by God right now? A false belief, an unconfessed sin? Might you share & pray this through with someone at PBC?

3. "I can be a pure servant for the Lord" (22-26)

Do you have a "running partner," someone you are training with, to "call on the Lord out of pure hearts" together? Or how might you find one?

Do you correct others with scriptural truths in a kind & gentle way? How might God purify you more in this, so that you grow as a peacemaker?