

## Progression

Main Scripture: 1<sup>st</sup> Timothy 1:5-6, 1:19-20, 4:1-2, 4:4, 4:7, 4:12-16  
Additional Scripture: 2<sup>nd</sup> Chronicles 26:5, 15-16, Philippians 1:25, 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 3:16-18

### Hearing: Discussion Questions

- Pastor Mike exhorted us to stop being impressed with flash, charisma, and talent and start being impressed with character and integrity. Share some testimonies of people in your lives that have made a lasting impact on you through their character and integrity.
  - Why do you think that has such a lasting impression in your life?
- **Read 1<sup>st</sup> Tim. 4:12.** “You *will* eventually stumble upon darkness in your soul” (mind, will emotions – this is different from your spirit). Is there any darkness in your soul right now that needs to be addressed? If so, split into groups and pray over the areas in your life that need healing, restoration, forgiveness, etc.
  - What do we do if we come to a point in our lives where we do stumble upon this darkness? What steps can we take to ensure that we continue to set an example in speech, life, love, faith, and purity even when the darkness begins to rise up inside of us?
- **Read 1<sup>st</sup> Tim. 4:1, 4:7, 4:15-16.** What is the message Paul is trying to get across to Timothy? How do we accelerate our growth as we grow in our Christian faith when conventional wisdom and statistics say that the exact opposite will happen the majority of the time?
- **Read Phil. 1:25.** In your life, what has been the relationship between growing in the Lord and your levels of joy at those times? Does joy always come with growth in the Lord? Explain why or why not.
- **Read 2<sup>nd</sup> Cor. 3:16-18** and compare those verses with this statement: “When we behold God’s character, our character begins to change.” How has this been true in your life? Share a few testimonies.

### Doing: Application

- **Read 1<sup>st</sup> Tim. 1:18-20.** Pastor Mike made the point that “very, very few Christians finish well.” What can we do to ensure that we finish well? What can we do as a small group to ensure that we all finish well that we can’t do individually? Discuss and implement this within your small group.
- Break up into groups of two or three people and share how you would personally like to continue progressing in you faith. Write this down and have the other person(s) in your smaller groups of two or three hold you accountable and encourage you throughout the month to continue in these areas and ways of growth.