



Finish: Things Aren't Always as They Appear!

Date: April 11th, 2021

Text: 1 Thessalonians 2:17-3:5

Passage Summary: As we seek to stay the course in our ministry of the gospel, it is essential to realize that things are not _____ as they _____!

180 Degree Truth #1: See that oftentimes things are not always as they appear when we encounter _____ in our ministry of the _____! (2:17-3:5)

Application: Recognize that when we encounter opposition in our ministry of the gospel, it is essential that we exercise...

- _____! (2:17-20)

“Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.”

1 Peter 5:8

Discernment: Is Satan Opposing or is God Redirecting? Check for alignment!

The Word of God! (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

Prayer! (James 1:5-8)

Peace! (Colossians 3:15)

Wise Counsel! (Proverbs 15:22)

Circumstances! (Acts 16:6-10)

Remember: When it comes to discernment, it is essential in our ministry of the gospel, for it can make the difference between pressing _____ in a particular direction in the face of opposition from Satan, or yielding to God's leading to be _____ to another!

- _____! (3:1-3a)

“And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others.”

2 Timothy 2:2

Remember: When it comes to delegation, it is essential in our ministry of the gospel, for through it, God can not only move to _____ His purposes, but close the _____ on Satan and his!

- _____! (3:3b-5)

“Then they returned to Lystra, Iconium and Antioch, strengthening the disciples and encouraging them to remain true to the faith. ‘We must go through many hardships to enter the kingdom of God,’ they said.”

Acts 14:21-22

3 Things Satan Does Not Want You to Know in Times of Suffering:

You are not _____! (1 Peter 5:8-9)

You are more _____ than you _____! (2 Peter 1:3)

You are an _____ through _____! (1 John 5:3-5)

Remember: When it comes to determination, it is essential in our ministry of the gospel, for through it, we find the grace of God to not only _____ the opposition that comes from Satan, but become a vessel through which God can _____ others to do the same!

Core Conviction to Live By: Resolutely determine that while faith, hope and love are an essential part of any effective ministry of the gospel, so are discernment, delegation and determination; ask the Lord to grant these qualities in your life and ministry of the gospel in increasing measure, and watch Him not only multiply your _____ for His glory, but close the door on the _____ that comes from Satan!