

My Story

1. What is one of your earliest memories of being deceived/lying to by someone else? How did you come to discover the truth?

Digging Deeper

2. What does Paul mean when he says that “some will fall away from the faith” in verse 1? Does this suggest that Christians can lose their salvation? Why/why not? What other passages of Scripture would you point to in support of your answer?
3. Why does Paul connect false teaching with hypocrisy and a seared conscience (v.2)? How can we identify hypocrisy versus human imperfection?

4. Why might teachings that forbid marriage or certain foods (v.3) have been appealing to some early Christians? How can prayer and thankfulness (vv.4+5) guard us from falling into false or fearful beliefs about what’s “clean” or “unclean”?

Reflection

5. Why do deceptive teachings often seem so convincing to sincere people? How can believers remain grounded in truth when so many false teachings sound appealing?
6. What are some lies currently being taught by false teachers about what a Christian can and can't do? If you had a friend that was being swayed by these teachers, what would you tell him or her?

SERMON NOTES

Don't Fall for False Teaching – 1 Timothy 4:1-5

Taking the Next Step

Take this week to focus on gratitude. Don't just thank God for your food with a brief prayer before meals. Also thank God for the things in His creation which you enjoy; the wonder of being created in His image; the joys of marriage, family and friends; the blessings of peace, freedom and justice; etc.

Praises / Prayer Requests

