

And the Lord's servant must not quarrel; instead, he must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful. Those who oppose him he must gently instruct, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the truth, and that they will come to their senses and escape from the trap of the devil, who has taken them captive to do his will.

2 Timothy 2:24-26 (NIV)

Opportunity

That is what I want. That is what I am looking for. **What is it that you want? What is it that you are looking for?** I want and am looking for opportunities to be used by you. **How do you want to be used by me?** I want to help others to come to know and love and follow and serve you. I want to help others to come to their senses so that they can repent and turn away from their sins and be set free from the trap of the devil. I want to help others to be able to live out the life of salvation you have for them now and forever. I want to be able to rejoice with you and all heaven when someone welcomes you into their lives as their Savior and Lord. **Those are all very good desires.**

Not everyone has the opportunities that you are asking for. Not everyone is able to minister to the needs of others. Not everyone is able to lead others to me. Why is that? **You tell me.** Well, I am sure that it is your desire that every one of your followers will be able to minister to others and lead them to you. **Yes, that is my desire.** I suppose some will not be able to minister to others and lead them to you because they are preoccupied or uninterested or unwilling or maybe even afraid. That is regrettable. That is lamentable. That is so sad. **Yes, it is. Is there any other reason why someone might not be able to minister to others and lead them to me?** Yes, there is another reason. It feels like you might be zeroing in on me. **Maybe, I am.** A quarrelsome and argumentative person will have little opportunity to be used by you to minister to others. **Why is that?** Quarrels and arguments and debates drive people away rather than draw them near. All of these close doors and limit opportunities to minister to others. Little kindness, mercy and love is seen in the heat of quarrels, arguments and debates. No one will open their heart to express their need or confess their sins to someone who is an angry debater, quarreler or arguer. I don't want to be that person. **That's good.** I will be kind. I will be gentle. I will be loving, so that I can be powerfully used by you. **That will be very good.** Help me to take advantage of every opportunity to love and minister to others. **Yes, I will. You can count on me.** Thank you, Lord.

Lord, protect me from being quarrelsome. Rather, help me to be kind, and loving and gentle to others. Open up doors of opportunity for me to minister to spiritual needs. Use me to lead others to you so they can turn from their sin, to love, follow and serve you. Amen

Becoming Like Christ *Must Not Quarrel*

And the Lord's servant must not quarrel; instead, he must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful. Those who oppose him he must gently instruct, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the truth, and that they will come to their senses and escape from the trap of the devil, who has taken them captive to do his will.

NIV 2 Timothy 2:24-26

Becoming Like Christ *Must Not Quarrel*

A servant of the Lord must not quarrel but must be kind to everyone, be able to teach, and be patient with difficult people. Gently instruct those who oppose the truth. Perhaps God will change those people's hearts, and they will learn the truth. Then they will come to their senses and escape from the devil's trap. For they have been held captive by him to do whatever he wants.

NLT 2 Timothy 2:24-26

Becoming Like Christ *Not Be Quarrelsome*

And the Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but kindly to everyone, an apt teacher, patient, correcting opponents with gentleness. God may perhaps grant that they will repent and come to know the truth, and that they may escape from the snare of the devil, having been held captive by him to do his will.

NRSV 2 Timothy 2:24-26

Becoming Like Christ *Not Be Quarrelsome*

And the servant of the Lord must not be quarrelsome (fighting and contending). Instead, he must be kindly to everyone and mild-tempered [preserving the bond of peace]; he must be a skilled and suitable teacher, patient and forbearing and willing to suffer wrong. He must correct his opponents with courtesy and gentleness, in the hope that God may grant that they will repent and come to know the Truth [that they will perceive and recognize and become accurately acquainted with and acknowledge it], And that they may come to their senses [and] escape out of the snare of the devil, having been held captive by him, [henceforth] to do His [God's] will.

AMP 2 Timothy 2:24-26

Becoming Like Christ *Not Be Quarrelsome*

The Lord's bond-servant must not be quarrelsome, but be kind to all, able to teach, patient when wronged, with gentleness correcting those who are in opposition, if perhaps God may grant them repentance leading to the knowledge of the truth, and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, having been held captive by him to do his will.

NASB 2 Timothy 2:24-26

Becoming Like Christ *Not Be Quarrelsome*

And the Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but kind to everyone, able to teach, patiently enduring evil, correcting his opponents with gentleness. God may perhaps grant them repentance leading to a knowledge of the truth, and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, after being captured by him to do his will.

ESV 2 Timothy 2:24-26

Becoming Like Christ *Must Not Quarrel*

And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient, in humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth, and that they may come to their senses and escape the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to do his will.

NKJV 2 Timothy 2:24-26

Becoming Like Christ *Not Be Argumentative*

God's servant must not be argumentative, but a gentle listener and a teacher who keeps cool, working firmly but patiently with those who refuse to obey. You never know how or when God might sober them up with a change of heart and a turning to the truth, enabling them to escape the Devil's trap, where they are caught and held captive, forced to run his errands.

MSG 2 Timothy 2:24-26

Becoming Like Christ *Not Be Quarrelsome*

God's people must not be quarrelsome; they must be gentle, patient teachers of those who are wrong. Be humble when you are trying to teach those who are mixed up concerning the truth. For if you talk meekly and courteously to them, they are more likely, with God's help, to turn away from their wrong ideas and believe what is true. Then they will come to their senses and escape from Satan's trap of slavery to sin, which he uses to catch them whenever he likes, and then they can begin doing the will of God.

TLB 2 Timothy 2:24-26

Becoming Like Christ *Must Not Quarrel*

And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel but must be kind to everyone, a good teacher, and patient. The Lord's servant must gently teach those who disagree. Then maybe God will let them change their minds so they can accept the truth. And they may wake up and escape from the trap of the devil, who catches them to do what he wants.

NCV 2 Timothy 2:24-26

Must Not Quarrel

Year _____ Week _____ Day _____ Date _____

Becoming Like Christ – 2 Timothy 2:24-26

In Context: *Read 2 Timothy 2*

Begin With Prayer:

Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.

Meditating On God's Word: ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

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Considering The Words: ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

And the Lord's servant | must not quarrel; | instead, | he must | be kind | to everyone, | able to teach, | not resentful. | Those who | oppose him | he must | gently instruct, | in the hope that | God will grant them | repentance | leading them to a knowledge | of the truth, | and that | they will come | to their senses | and escape | from the trap | of the devil, | who has | taken them captive | to do | his will. 2 Timothy 2:24-26 (NIV)

Praying The Scripture: ***(What prayer from your heart will you write?)***

Lord, protect me from being quarrelsome. Rather, help me to be kind, and loving and gentle to others. Open up doors of opportunity for me to minister to spiritual needs. Use me to lead others to you so they can turn from their sin, to love, follow and serve you. Amen

What It Means: ***(What questions speak to your heart?)*** *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

When have you fallen into the trap of being quarrelsome and argumentative?

Why will there never be any good fruit coming out of quarrelsome arguments?

Why can you be certain that quarrelsome arguments will destroy relationships?

When have you chosen to be kind and loving over being quarrelsome and argumentative?

When has being kind and loving and gentle opened doors of opportunity for you to minister to others?

When has the Lord given you opportunities to gently instruct others in spiritual matters?

When have you played a role in someone repenting of their sin and turning their life over to Christ?

Living It Out: ***(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)***

Be kind and loving and gentle with others so that you will have an opportunity to minister to them.

Seeing It Happen: ***(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)***

Have faith that being kind and loving and gentle will give you opportunities to minister to others.

Get Ready To Share: ***(What can you share with others from your heart?)***

Share with another person or your small group how the Lord has given you opportunities to minister to others.

Close With Prayer:

Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

Pause And Offer Prayers Of...

With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You

Adoration... _____

Thanksgiving... _____

Confession... _____

Intercession... _____

Petition... _____

Journal

As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?

What Prayers Are You Praying Today?

Prayer Of Blessing

(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)

May you be kind to everyone so that they will be receptive to you teaching them.

Prayer To Carry

(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)

Lord, I will be kind to everyone so that they will be receptive to me teaching them.

What Do You Want To Remember About Today?

A Question To Ask God

(What Would You Like To Ask God?)

Lord, how can I teach others so that they will be able to come to know and love and follow and serve you?
