

## Avoiding Godless Chatter

Paul told his young protege, Timothy, many things throughout his two letters. One that seems to be a running theme is the importance of that which Timothy was to fill his mind - and what to avoid. Paul, two times, speaks of “godless chatter” (NIV84) in **1st Timothy 6:20-21** and **2nd Timothy 2:16**; using similar phrases to emphasize the importance of keeping one’s mind and spiritual state **healthy**. Godless chatter is unhealthy and corrupting to the believer and avoiding polluting influences is necessary for the Christian to be whole and healthy!

In the following questions, we will discuss how this “chatter” affects major areas of each of our lives.

- 1-Our **relationships**,
- 2-Our **social media intake (TikTok, snapchat, x, Facebook, etc)**.
- 3-Our **theological and religious speculations and controversies**
- 4-Our own “**self-talk**” in our brains!

### Section 1 - General wisdom about chatter:

1 - How does **chatter** affect disagreements among people?

**Proverbs 16:28 -**

**Proverbs 17:9 -**

**Proverbs 17:14 -**

**Proverbs 18:19 -**

**Proverbs 26:20 -**

2 - What typically happens when casual conversations carry on without someone **spiritual** directing the course?

**Proverbs 10:19 -**

**Ephesians 4:29 -**

3 - Why is it important to be **selective** about who/what we will listen to?

**Proverbs 14:7 -**

**Proverbs 18:17 -**

**Proverbs 22:24 -**

**Proverbs 19:19 -**

**Ecclesiastes 7:21-22 -**

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4 - What is the **danger** if we ignore God's commands about this matter?

**Ephesians 5:6-7 -**

Should Christians allow themselves to be around these influences? What should we do?

**Matthew 12:36-37** - Unbelievers will have to \_\_\_\_\_ on the Day of Judgement for careless words!

### **Section 2 - Paul's care for the health of Timothy's mind: (and ours, too). A walk-through of 1st and 2nd Timothy.**

5 - What did Paul want Timothy to avoid? (**1 Timothy 1:3-6**) And why?

6 - What can Christians trade their sinful tendencies for? Why is this good for us? And why is this pleasing to God?

**1 Timothy 2:1-4 -**

**1 Timothy 2:8 -**

**1 Timothy 4:7-8 -**

**1 Timothy 4:12 -**

**1 Timothy 4:13 -**

**1 Timothy 4:15 -**

**1 Timothy 4:16 -**

7 - What is the promise and how does this contribute to one's mental, emotional, and spiritual health? (**1 Timothy 3:13**) -

*Hosea said, "like people, like priest" (4:9) - leadership in the church is the MODEL for everyone else. However, even if one doesn't serve in an official capacity, they are to live up to the standard the Bible teaches for leaders, in order that they may reap the benefits of that life! Therefore, it can be concluded that 1 Timothy 3:13 is a help for ANY believer's spiritual HEALTH!*

8 - What is the "**health**" status of the men Paul warns about?

**1 Timothy 6:3-6 -**

**1 Timothy 6:21 -**

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9 - Each instructive passage gave a **COMMAND** to Timothy. Note each one as we walk through them.

**1 Timothy 6:20 -**

**1 Timothy 1:13-14 -**

**2 Timothy 2:14-16 -**

**2 Timothy 2:23-26 -**

**2 Timothy 3:5-8 - (v.5) -**

**2 Timothy 3:14-17 -**

**2 Timothy 4:1-5 -**

*Note: anytime Paul informs us about a “pattern of sound teaching”, or the “good deposit” - he is talking about The Scriptures!*

10 - What were Paul’s concern(s) for the churches regarding their spiritual health? **Colossians 2:1-10**

11 - Is Christ enough? \_\_\_\_\_ Do we need other philosophies and teachings? \_\_\_\_\_ Do we need to let our minds wander into speculative areas to try to make Divine connections?

12 - **Colossians 2:18-23** - How are the teachings described here? Can you point out the different kinds of error?

13 - Why does Paul say these teachings are powerless to help us? (**V23**).

14 - What does God want us rid of? **Colossians 3:8** (as they relate to godless chatter)

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_,

\_\_\_\_\_.

15 - Believers SHOULD NOT \_\_\_\_\_ to each other! **Colossians 3:9, Ephesians 4:25**

16 - What are some effective ways to be a light to this world?

**1st Thessalonians 4:11-12 -**

**Colossians 3:5 -**

**Philippians 1:3-11 -**

17 - A healthy mind will focus on what? **Philippians 4:4-9**