

## Small Group/Sermon Notes for Instead Part 4: Turn The Other Cheek

Remember, small groups are primarily for growing closer relationships with other believers. We can learn wonderful things in this environment but keep relationships first.

- Make sure everyone knows each other's names. Have everyone share a little about themselves and how life is going right now.
- **Instead: Set Up**
- This is a series about replacing the old with the new!
  - We will look at some Scriptures with the word "instead" included or implied.
  - It's basically **Romans 12:2** applied in a variety of circumstances.
  - It's not enough to reject bad things, we must replace those things. **Matthew 12:43-45**.
- **This Week: Turn Your Cheek**
- Probably top 5 most iconic teachings of Christ, Divine De-escalation: **Matt 5:38-48**.
  - Perfection is showing (and feeling) God's love and kindness even to enemies.
    - The goal is to break the cycle of darkness.
  - Couple that with **2 Timothy 2:23-24**.
- Today we replace offence, intolerance, and pride with kindness, influence, and peace.
- Preliminary Core Competency for this: Bearing unjust suffering.
  - **1 Peter 2:18-25**
    - **(v19)** This applies when the other person is in the wrong.
    - **(v21)** Jesus is our example.
    - **(v23)** Instead of threats Jesus entrusted the situation to God.
    - **Romans 12:19** They aren't off the hook. We just let God handle it.
      - If we can't do this, we will punch back (verbally or physically) instead of turn the other cheek. That is not de-escalation! How important is this?
  - Don't take this too far and become an enabler. If it's dangerous, get out!!
    - Did Jesus always de-escalate situations? NO! (flipped tables, Matt 23, healed on Sabbath)
    - Another Core Competency: know when to apply various Scriptures.
      - For ex: turn other cheek or expel immoral brother? (1Cor 5:13)
- Let's look at the greater context of 2 Timothy 2:23-24.
- This Epistle was written by Paul to Timothy to help him manage ministry situations.
- **2 Timothy 2:14** Interesting, quarreling ruins "those who listen." Implications on church and family?
- **2 Timothy 2:15-16**
  - Godless chatter makes people more ungodly. What is godless chatter? It's actually bad doctrine!
- **2 Timothy 2:17-18**
  - Don't do that. Instead: **2 Timothy 2:19**
  - And strive to be (to Timothy remember) noble. **2 Timothy 2:20-21**
- **2 Timothy 2:22**
  - Pursue: righteousness, faith, love and peace. How do we do that?
  - Aren't we "flawless" already? Why pursue these things?
- **2 Timothy 2:23-24**
  - Don't quarrel because it ruins the listener!!
  - Finish the section **2 Timothy 2:25-26**.
    - Assumption that you are not the one trapped! How do you know if you are right or wrong?
- The three things we do "instead" of quarreling from **2 Tim 2:24**:
  - Be kind to everyone. Not just your friends: (**Matt 5:46-47**)
  - Able to teach. Be smart with this: **Proverbs 9:7-9** How do we properly apply these verses?
  - Not resentful. Other translations: patient, forbearing. It means you don't get all upset when wronged, but you can calmly help the other person. Wow! That's hard, isn't it?
    - This really is being the bigger person.
- Pray for each other before you finish up!