

Study Guide Questions

Series: TD12

Message: Priorities & Authority

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ENGAGE THE SCRIPTURES

Memory Verse: 1 Timothy 4:7-8

Have nothing to do with godless myths and old wives' tales; rather, train yourself to be godly. For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come.

Read Matthew 16:1-12

- What do you think was the motivation for the Pharisees and Sadducees to approach Jesus for a sign? Does this mentality still exist today? Where have you witnessed it?
- Up to this point, Jesus had already performed many signs and wonders. Why does Jesus not perform one more to validate His identity? Why might we not receive a sign when we pray for one?
- What is the sign of Jonah? In what ways are the message of Jonah and the message of Christ the same? Who is the sign of Jonah for?
- The disciples lost focus on the spiritual truth Jesus was trying to teach and instead were concerned about physical needs. Do you ever find yourself being overly focused on physical needs? Where should our focus be?
- Jesus instructs His disciples to guard against the teaching of the Pharisees and Sadducees. How can we judge when spiritual teaching is healthy or dangerous?

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SPIRITUAL FRIENDSHIP

Read Matthew 16:13-20

- What did it take for Peter to boldly step up with his declaration and not adhere to the opinions of the crowd? What would/does it take for you? What do you need to do to feel confident in remaining in His truth and not follow what the crowds have to say?
- Who do you say Jesus is? How was this revealed to you?
- Consider those who you know are not Christians. Do you think they would be interested in hearing the truth of Jesus if they knew their beliefs are incorrect?
- When considering what God wants for your life, what can keep you from stepping out in boldness? Does knowing that Hell cannot thwart God's plans provide you with any additional courage?



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