

Sermon Title: The Death of Self-Improvement

Review from 1:1-11:

- Timothy's charge (despite his challenges): don't run from the fight for the purity of the gospel.
- False teachers were using God's word to manipulate people rather than point them to God's grace.
- The root of the problem: What they taught did not have the power to change the heart

Reflect for a moment: How have you tried to change yourself or others?

- Rules?
- Guilt trips?
- Threats?
- Manipulation?

Two Main Questions:

- Why Does the Gospel of Grace Alone Change the Heart?
- How Will I Know The Gospel of Grace Is Changing Me?

Question 1: Why Does The Gospel of Grace Alone Change the Heart?

Answers:

- The gospel of grace displays Christ's patience with sinners
- vv. 15-16
- The gospel of grace supplies the faith and love needed for heart change
- vv. 12-14
- v. 2
- 1 John 4:16

Question 2: How will I know if the gospel of grace is changing me?

Answers:

- You will become increasingly aware of your sin and increasingly aware of God's worth
- Insert cross chart
- You will fight your sin
- You will serve your church with gratitude
- v. 12
- You will be learning patience with others as they are in the process of change just like you are
- v. 18