

*Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth.* **2Timothy 2:15**

## Store In My Heart

### 1Timothy 4:16

Keep a close watch on yourself and on the teaching. Persist in this, for by so doing you will save both yourself and your hearers.

Choosing just one verse for this letter is hard. Paul wrote this letter to Timothy, one he trusted to teach as he himself had done. It was probably written between 60 and 66 AD and reached Timothy while he was working with the church in Ephesus.

The general message of this letter is focused on helping Timothy with his work as a proclaimer of the Gospel. Instructions on helping the various types of individuals in a local congregation work together for God are included. Qualifications for elders and deacons are also found here. Understanding of these things is necessary for us to work together as a congregation. It is not just for preachers.



# Can't See The Forest For The Trees

Shane Williams

It is easy to get so close to a temptation that we lose our perspective. It may be something as small as a rumor that we knew shouldn't be passed along, but the urge to "tell it" blocked out our sense of good judgment. It may be something that we have made our mind up about that we are going to do. We are therefore unable to see the right way!

Adam and Eve faced a similar problem long ago. They became so preoccupied with "one tree" in their garden paradise that they couldn't see the forest for the tree.

**Genesis 2:17** *but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.*

**Genesis 3:3** *but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.'*

Just look at what it cost them. The Garden of Eden had been created especially for them.

**Genesis 2:8** *And the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and there he put the man whom he had formed.*

## Contact Us

We want opportunities to speak with others about the Lord's Kingdom.

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## For Our Information

Joyce Venable is doing about the same and still under hospice care.

Brenda Keisler is still waiting on MRI results for her hip.

Paula Laubach is doing much better.

Adelaide's other Grandfather, James Lesh, is doing well after lung surgery.

Tonight we start in 2Samuel 13:23.

Wednesday we will start Colossians 1:17. Come study with us.

Pray for safety, courage & healing.

In it they knew no evil, no trials, no sickness, and no death. They enjoyed the company of the Creator Himself. Yet they gave up all they had just to eat of the fruit of that "one" forbidden tree.

Their mistake is eerily similar to ours. How often do we miss the entire forest of God's goodness for a single tree of temptation? The moment of enticement seems so overwhelming, the idea so irresistible, and our logic so twisted.

Please think about all Adam and Eve left behind in the Garden. We need to fill our minds with the truth of God's Word. We need to rely on Him for strength and guidance. Resist the temptations that come our way.

**James 4:7** *Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.*

Then we can experience the joy of God's blessing rather than temporary pleasure. Heaven (our inheritance) is imperishable, undefiled and will not fade away.

**1Peter 1:4** *to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you*

It is waiting for God's people.

**James 1:12** *Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him.*

(As this article points out, we need to pay attention to what is going on around us so that we can avoid temptation. All the blessings of God are ours to enjoy, yet we often are turned from them by the temporary things of this world. This can happen in other areas of life also.

We dislike one "new country" songs and thus decide all such songs are bad. We taste one 'salad' and don't like it so we dismiss all 'salads' from our menu. We read one article on God's grace that seems to teach salvation without works so we refuse to read any thing about grace and in doing so push closer to the idea of earning our salvation. We need to consider the whole picture. We need to know the forest if we are to understand the trees. (DLH)



We seek only to serve God according to His Will!