**God’s Design for the Church (1 Timothy)**

**Danger Ahead (1 Timothy 4:1-5)**

**Recap:**

* **Finish Chapter 1**
* **Finish Chapter 2**
* **The Essential Qualities of Elders (1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9)**
* **Servants: Official or Otherwise (1 Timothy 3:8-13 and Acts 6:1-7)**
* **The Household of God (1 Timothy 3:14-16)**
  + **Are you helping the church to fulfill its mission of being the Household of God?**
  + **Do you treat the members of the church as God’s Family?**
  + **Do you still have a sense of reverence for God’s presence when gathering with the church?**
  + **Are you striving to hold firm to the truth and proclaim it to all who will listen?**
* **1 Timothy 4:1-5**
* **Danger is always lurking ahead, especially those who belong to the family of God. Today we will look the Danger that lurks ever Christian.**

1. **The Danger of Apostasy or Falling Away (v. 1)**
   1. **Some individuals who once professed faith in Christ end up drifting away or deliberately turning from the Lord.**
   2. **They have been active in ministry, but now they no longer live as Christians**
   3. **These apostates may become ensnared in cults, entangled in worldly values or fall into moral problems.**
   4. **Paul warns Timothy about this danger, emphasizing that we all need to be on guard against falling away.**
   5. **Examples: Judas, the other 10, 1 Timothy 1:20**
2. **The Danger of Spiritual Warfare and Deceitful Spirits**
   1. **Paul explains that we are engaged in spiritual warfare.**
   2. **False teachers and those who are following deceitful spirits and the doctrines of demons.**
   3. **These spirits work to thwart God’s purpose and lead people away from the truth.**
   4. **Ephesians 6:11-13**
   5. **2 Corinthians 10:3-5**

**The Solution to facing Danger regarding Apostasy, Spiritual Warfare and Deceitful Spirits**

* **Perspective For Perseverance** 
  + **To avoid falling away, we must persevere in God’s truth with thankfulness**
  + **Some in Ephesus were already turning away, so Timothy needed to be vigilant.**
  + **The outlook for these times involves recognizing the dangers and staying rooted in God’s Word.**
  + **James 1:2-4**
  + **1 Corinthians 10:13**

**Conclusion:**

* **Remember we are all vulnerable, but understanding these truths can help us guard our faith.**
* **In these dark and dangerous times, we are living, we must remember to Persevere and Danger lurks around the corner.**
* **James 1:12**
* **May we finish the race and persevere because in the end God wins.**