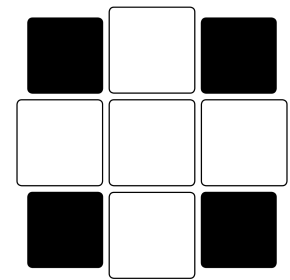


# Check Yourself

Scripture: 1 Timothy 4:16

Sunday, July 5, 2015



**REDEEMER**  
FELLOWSHIP

## Overview

While on sabbatical, Joe was able to process through some of what our country is going through (e.g. racism and sexual sin). God brought him to 1 Timothy 4:16. Starting by focusing on ourselves and our doctrine, we should make sure we've humbly dealt with the log in our own eye so we can see clearly to pluck the speck (glitter) from our brother's.

## Discussion Questions

1. What does it mean to focus on ourselves? Why is it important? What does it *not* mean? What about focusing on our teaching? Why is that important? What does this not include?
2. In what ways do you try to use your knowledge about God as an excuse *not* to show the compassion of God?
3. When we examine our hearts, what should we look for? [see Proverbs 4; Hebrews 3:12] Of what benefit is focusing on our hearts? [guarding against sin and remaining in communion with God, which leads to holiness] What are some practical ways of heart examination? How might you do this within a community group? What are the dangers of ignoring your heart?
4. What habits should be characteristic of a child of God? What priorities should be characteristic of those in Christ's kingdom? What role does community play in regards to your habits? How is your community group specifically helping people develop and maintain godly habits?
5. We can't make sense of life if we don't know the God who created it, His rules and the role everything plays. We must sharpen and share our doctrine. What is the danger of "dull" doctrine? How do we sharpen it? [study of scripture, reading other resources, discussion] How does this community group help one another in these three tasks?
6. What is the gospel? Does your life give testimony to its saving grace? Have you connected the dots between your habits and your testimony?
7. Would you identify as being more *afraid*, or *angry* (or neither) in response to the Supreme Court ruling? How does the good news of Jesus inform our thinking on this subject?
8. What does it mean to focus on yourself (heart and habits) and doctrine (sharpen and share) in regards to the issues facing the church today (e.g. Supreme Court ruling, reality of racism, extreme religious violence, etc.)?