**Lesson 2: JUDE: Contending for The Faith in Today’s Culture**

**Text: Jude 3-4: Beloved, although I was very eager to write to you about our common salvation, I found it necessary to write appealing to you to contend for the faith that was once for all delivered to the Saints. For certain people have crept in unnoticed who long ago were designated for this condemnation, ungodly people, who pervert the grace of our God into sensuality and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.**

1. **What did Jude intend to write about and why would that have been important?**
2. **Carefully read over Jude and note every occurrence of the word saved. Considering the way saved is used in these verses, what do you think Jude means by the word?**
3. **Define eager and then define necessary.**
4. **Reading Jude 3-4, what was going n in his reader’s lives that compelled Jude shift his train of thought and write in a necessary manner?**
5. **How do you usually discern what’s necessary to say and do you have the courage to speak the necessary thing? Why or Why not?**

|  |
| --- |
| **Contend: in Greek *agonizomai,* from the root of the English term, “agonize” meaning “properly, to struggle, like engaged in an intense athletic contest or warfare.”** |

1. **Read 1 Peter 3:15. What are the two characteristics Peter said we should display when making a defense?**
2. **Now read 2 Timothy 2:24-26. What shouldn’t the Lord’s servant (same word Jude uses to describe himself in verse 1) be?**
3. **Look at the Greek definition of contend again. What English word stems from it?**
4. **Thinking through what is would look like to struggle with others in defense of God’s word and the explicit teachings in Scripture that our culture fights tooth and nail to defy, what does Jude’s use of the word agonizomai (contend) do for your understanding of how you should approach contending for the faith?**
5. **What is faith, as in, what are the essential doctrines of Scripture Christians must contend for? (ex. God).**
6. **At the end of verse 3, Jude says that the faith was delivered to the saints, “once for all.” What do you think this phrase means?**
7. **Why do you think false teaching and teachers are able to go unnoticed?**
8. **What does it look like to deny Christ?**