

Dear Church Family,

Do you realize if even one generation over the last 2,000 years had completely dropped the ball and not passed along the true gospel message of Jesus Christ, we wouldn't know the truth? Thankfully, there was always at least a remnant of faithful followers who boldly and sacrificially testified of truth and as a result, we have the message of eternal life. However, with this great gift, we now become the stewards of ensuring it being handed down to the next generation. How do we do that faithfully? By holding to the message we have received and living it out diligently in our daily lives, we ensure that the truth of God's great love for His creation expressed in the sacrifice of His One and only Son Jesus will continue to redeem the lives of others into the next generation. This responsibility began with the very first disciples and continues through us today. We must *live the truth and pass it on* for the salvation of the next generation.

For the remainder of this year, we will be pouring over Paul's second epistle to his young protégé Timothy. Our study is entitled, **To Be Continued...** and issues the same challenge for us today. Are we living the gospel in such a way that our lives are ensuring that it will be faithfully passed along to the next generation?

Here at Easthaven, we have a declared priority of making disciples and guiding them on the journey to follow Jesus. Our strategy to accomplish this purpose is to encourage everyone to pick up one of these devotional guides for the study series, work through the five days of devotions each week, gather on the weekend to worship and study collectively, and then gather in a smaller study group in the days that follow for the purpose of processing the truth. We are convinced that when someone does all of these tasks, they have to grow and mature in their own personal spiritual journey. That is our goal!

Pastor Daniel <><

# A PRE-STUDY CHALLENGE

If you want to get the maximum impact from studying 2 Timothy, grab some notebook paper and spend a few intense hours doing the work below. When you're finished, you'll have read the entire letter of 2 Timothy four times.

1. Read the entire letter of 2 Timothy and list every fact you learn about the author.
2. Read 2 Timothy again and list every fact you learn about the recipients of the letter.
3. Read 2 Timothy again and list every fact you learn about Jesus.
4. Read 2 Timothy again and list important words you see repeated. Seeing these words will help unlock the meaning of what Paul is saying in his letter. After you list the repeated words, go back and tally how many times each occurs. Which two or three words appear most often in the text?
5. Based on the repeated words, what would you say is the theme of this letter?

## MEMORY VERSE CHALLENGE

...But I am not ashamed, because I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to guard what has been entrusted to me until that day. (2 Timothy 1:12b)

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. (2 Timothy 4:7)

# Week One



**SMALL GROUP**  
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## WEEK ONE - DAY ONE

**Read 2 Timothy 1:1-2.**

**WHO** is the author of this letter?

**WHAT** is an apostle? Do some research.

**HOW** is Paul an apostle of Christ Jesus?

Read Acts 13:9. By **WHAT** other name is Paul known?

Read Acts 7:54 to 8:3 and then 9:1-21.

**WHAT** is Saul's will before Jesus intercepts him on his way to Damascus?

**WHAT** is Jesus' will for Saul (Paul)? (See Acts 9:15.)

Read 2 Timothy 1:1 again. **WHAT** is the purpose of Paul's apostleship?

Read 2 Timothy 1:1 again. **WHAT** title is attached to Jesus' name?

"Christ" means "anointed one" or "chosen one."

Recall that Saul was previously breathing threats and murder against the disciples of Jesus. Now he is calling Jesus "the chosen one." **WHY** the astounding reversal in thinking?

Using 2 Timothy 1:1 as a template, how would you introduce yourself to someone? Insert your name and details relating to your own experience with God:

## **WEEK ONE - DAY TWO**

**Read 2 Timothy 1:3.**

**WHO** does Paul serve?

**HOW** does Paul serve God?

Read Paul's words in Ephesians 5:8-10. How do Paul's words here relate to a clear conscience?

Consider this quote (from [preceptaustin.org](http://preceptaustin.org)) on the meaning of conscience: "The underlying direction and motive of life is to obey and to please God."

Read 2 Timothy 1:3 again. The word "clear" means clean, pure, blameless.

**WHAT** do you think Paul means, then, when he says he serves God with a clear conscience?

Read Acts 8:3 and Philippians 3:4-6. Saul was laboring to please God, by zealously ridding the world of Christ followers. Was he not following God in clear conscience then? Explain your answer.

In what condition is your conscience toward God?

## WEEK ONE - DAY THREE

**Read 2 Timothy 1:3-4.**

WHAT does Paul say to God in his prayers?

WHAT does Paul do constantly?

WHEN does Paul pray for Timothy?

WHY is Timothy on Paul's mind so much?

For WHAT does Paul long?

WHY does he want to see Timothy?

WHY will seeing Timothy bring Paul joy?

HOW do you think Timothy feels when he reads about how much Paul is praying for him?

Often we tell someone, "I'll pray for you." But what might be the increased value in communicating, "I've *been* praying for you" and to be able to tell the person when and how much we've been praying for him or her?

## WEEK ONE - DAY FOUR

**Read 2 Timothy 1:5.**

**WHAT** does Paul clearly recall?

**WHAT** kind of faith does Timothy have?

Imagine Paul's work in establishing churches and the wide spectrum of faith he has seen in people. **HOW** do you think he knows Timothy's faith is sincere versus fake?

Read 1 Peter 1:6-7 and compare it to 2 Timothy 1:5. What insight do Peter's words give you, about the probable life experiences Lois, Eunice, and Timothy have experienced?

Is your own faith sincere or superficial? Explain your answer.

## WEEK ONE – DAY FIVE

**Read 2 Timothy 1:6.**

WHAT is in Timothy?

HOW did Timothy receive this gift?

WHAT does Timothy need to do with this gift?

When you see the word “ablaze,” WHAT images come to mind?

**Read 2 Timothy 1:7.**

WHAT hasn't God given to His followers?

HOW do you think fear is related to the discussion about Timothy's gift and keeping it ablaze?

HOW do you think each of these qualities is connected to Timothy's gift and keeping it ablaze:

power

love

sound judgment (which means self-control or moderation)

Read 2 Timothy 1:6-7 again. How much of keeping the gift ablaze is Timothy's job and how much is God's job?

WHAT gift has God given to you, for the benefit of the body of Christ?

Describe how you keep this gift ablaze:

Now describe how God's spirit of power, love, and self-control influence the intensity of the blaze of your gift:



## **WEEK ONE – GROUP DISCUSSION**

### **Read 2 Timothy 1:1-7.**

Describe the author of this letter. What is God's will for Paul? Saul was breathing out murderous threats against followers of Jesus. Now he calls him the Christ. Why the dramatic change in thinking?

Using 2 Timothy 1:1 as a template, how would you introduce yourself to someone?

Paul says he serves God with a clear conscience. What does this mean? In what condition is your own conscience toward God?

Describe how Paul has been praying for Timothy. Discuss whether it's better to say, "I will pray for you" versus "I have been praying for you," along with specifics of when and how often. Describe a time when someone prayed for you the way Paul did for Timothy and what effect this had on you.

What kind of faith does Timothy have? Compare 2 Timothy 1:5 to 1 Peter 1:6-7. What do Peter's words tell you about the lives of Lois, Eunice, and Timothy? Talk about a sincere versus a superficial faith. How can we know if a person's faith is sincere? Have you ever faked it yourself?

Discuss Timothy's gifting. How do you think Timothy keeps his gift ablaze? What gift has God given you? How does fear dump a bucket of cold water on your gift? How has God's spirit of power, love, and self-control influenced the use of your gift? (Discuss each of these qualities and their relation to spiritual gifting.)



## Prayer Requests:

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# Week Two



**SMALL GROUP**  
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## WEEK TWO - DAY ONE

**Read 2 Timothy 1:8.**

WHAT command does Paul give Timothy?

WHAT might cause Timothy be ashamed of the testimony and of Paul?

Read 1 Peter 4:14. WHAT feeling does ridicule usually cause?

Read 2 Timothy 1:8. Paul wants Timothy to refuse to be ashamed of the testimony of the Lord. What line of thinking will have to be the response to ridicule, then? What thoughts will deflect shame?

WHAT actions usually accompany shame?

WHAT does Paul want Timothy to *do* in the face of ridicule and abuse?

HOW is Timothy going to endure suffering for the gospel?

WHAT do you think about the gospel, and are your thoughts substantial enough to hold up to ridicule or abuse? Make a list of why the gospel is true and good:

## WEEK TWO - DAY TWO

### Read 2 Timothy 1:9

WHAT did not save us?

Read Paul's words in Ephesians 2:8-9.

HOW are people saved?

WHY aren't people saved by good works?

Read 2 Timothy 1:9 again.

God has saved people according to WHAT two things?

WHEN was God's grace given to us?

HOW was grace given?

Read Paul's words in Ephesians 1:3-4. How does this passage compare to 2 Timothy 1:9?

How does it affect you, to think on the fact that God gave grace to you before time began?

Read 2 Timothy 1:9 again.

WHAT is the holy calling, according to 2 Timothy 1:8?

HOW is the calling described?

WHAT is the difference between being saved and being called?

Does every believer have a holy calling, or is this just a conversation for Paul and Timothy?

Even people who aren't church-goers often talk about finding their "calling." How is the secular use of the word "calling" different from Paul's description of a "holy" calling?

Would you say you also have a "holy calling?" If yes, describe it here:

## WEEK TWO - DAY THREE

**Read 2 Timothy 1:10.**

WHAT has now been made evident? See verse 9.

Read 1 Peter 1:10-11. If grace was given to us before time began, WHY does Peter talk about “the grace that *would* come to you”?

Read 2 Timothy 1:10 again. HOW was grace made evident?

WHAT words does Paul use to describe Jesus?

WHAT has Jesus abolished?

“Abolish” means to deactivate something or to deprive it of power.

WHAT has Jesus brought to light?

Meditate on Paul’s words in 1 Corinthians 15:51-57. How do thoughts of immortality affect your daily actions and decisions?

## **WEEK TWO - DAY FOUR**

### **Read 2 Timothy 1:11.**

Paul says “for this gospel.” Gospel means “good news.” Without looking, see if you can recap what the good news was, from the previous verses 9-10. Then read those verses and complete your list with anything you forgot.

For the gospel, WHAT three roles was Paul appointed?

For the gospel, what roles has God assigned to you? Pour another cup of coffee and think long on this.



## WEEK TWO - DAY FIVE

**Read 2 Timothy 1:12.**

**WHY** is Paul suffering?

Paul is not indulging himself in **WHAT** emotion?

Compare 2 Timothy 1:12 to 1:8. **WHY** do you think Paul tells Timothy not to be ashamed of the gospel and then makes a statement about himself not being ashamed? **WHAT** is Paul accomplishing here?

For **WHAT** two reasons is Paul not ashamed of the testimony he was appointed to share?

**WHY** does Paul say, "I know *whom* I have believed" instead of "I know *what* I have believed"?

If there were a scale that were to mark the range of being ashamed of the gospel to being proud of the gospel, where would you put a mark for yourself?

If there were a scale that were to mark the range of really knowing Christ to being far from Christ, where would you put a mark for yourself?

According to Paul's testimony in 2 Timothy 1:12, **WHAT** is the correlation between the above two scales, and what does this reveal to you about yourself?

## WEEK TWO – GROUP DISCUSSION

**Read 2 Timothy 1:8-12.**

What command does Paul give Timothy? What thoughts come with shame? What actions follow being ashamed of something? What line of thinking and subsequent actions would be in contrast to this? Where do your own thoughts and actions fall, when it comes to the gospel of Christ?

How are people saved? What does not save a person and why? God not only saves people, He also does what? Talk about the word “calling,” as used in secular conversations, versus a holy calling. Does every saved person have a holy calling? Would you say you have one? For the gospel, what roles has God assigned to you?

Read 2 Timothy 1:10 again. How do thoughts of immortality affect your daily actions and decisions?

Read 2 Timothy 1:12 again. Why does Paul say, “I know *whom* I have believed” instead of “I know *what* I have believed”? What is the correlation between being close to Christ and being proud of His gospel? How do you see this as true in your life?





# Week Three



**SMALL GROUP**  
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## WEEK THREE - DAY ONE

**Read 2 Timothy 1:13.**

WHAT did Timothy hear from Paul?

WHAT word does Paul use to describe his teaching?

“Sound” is a word we would use to describe someone’s health, saying he is “well” or “whole.”

Read Paul’s words in 2 Corinthians 11:1-4. WHY is he beyond frustrated with this group of believers?

Read 1 Corinthians 2:2. WHAT did Paul determine to do?

According to the above two notes to the Corinthian church, WHAT do you think Paul means by “sound teaching”?

Read 2 Timothy 1:10-11. WHAT is Paul’s message?

List all of the people from whom you regularly receive teaching (including your pastor(s), Bible study teachers, radio or online sources, authors, etc.):

Now go back and evaluate each of those people for their soundness of teaching.

Would you say you’re using good discernment, in whom you allow to teach you? Do you need to stop listening to or reading from any unsound teachers?

## WEEK THREE - DAY TWO

**Read 2 Timothy 1:14.**

**WHAT** was entrusted to Timothy? Use Paul's own words in previous verses to answer this.

**WHAT** adjective does Paul use to describe the gift entrusted to Timothy?

**WHAT** does Paul command Timothy to do?

Read 2 Timothy 1:6,8. **WHAT** clues do these two verses give, as to **WHAT** Timothy has to guard against?

Read 2 Timothy 1:14 again.

**HOW** will Timothy guard his gift?

**WHERE** does the Holy Spirit live?

**WHY** does it matter that the Holy Spirit lives in him?

In **WHAT** ways has the Holy Spirit empowered you to keep your gift ablaze?

## **WEEK THREE - DAY THREE**

**Read 2 Timothy 1:15.**

**WHAT** does Timothy know?

**WHY** have people turned away from Paul? Use Paul's own words from verse 8 to answer this.

**HOW** does verse 15 explain Paul's focused message that Timothy not be ashamed of the gospel?

**Read Mark 14:43-50.** **HOW** does Paul's experience of being abandoned compare to that of Jesus?

Imagine what kinds of thoughts would go through your mind as you're sitting in prison and most everyone has deserted you.

Now read 2 Timothy 1:1-15. List the kinds of thoughts Paul is saying that might be of comfort and encouragement to his own heart and mind.



## **WEEK THREE – DAY FOUR**

**Read 2 Timothy 1:16-18.**

**WHAT** did Onesiphorus do in Ephesus?

**WHAT** has Onesiphorus done for Paul in Rome?

**HOW OFTEN** has he done this?

**WHAT** does this say about Paul's needs?

**Compare** Paul's spiritual gifting to that of Onesiphorus.

**HOW** are they different?

**HOW** are their gifts equally important?

**In thinking about gifting, with whom do you most identify – Paul or Onesiphorus? Explain your answer.**

**Paul says Onesiphorus searched “diligently” for him in Rome. What does diligence look like in using your spiritual gift?**

## WEEK THREE - DAY FIVE

**Read 2 Timothy 1:16-18.**

**WHAT** does Onesiphorus think of Paul's imprisonment?

**WHAT** does he do that demonstrates his lack of shame in Paul's chains?

**WHY** would Onesiphorus put himself in harm's way in Rome, to search for and minister to Paul in prison? **WHAT** drives him?

**WHAT** does Paul pray for Onesiphorus?

**WHEN** does Paul want Onesiphorus to receive mercy, and **WHAT** do you think he means by this?

Read 2 Timothy 1:8. **WHAT** example has Onesiphorus set for Timothy?

**WHAT** do you know of our brothers and sisters in Christ who are suffering because they hold firm to their faith in Christ?

Consider subscribing to *The Voice of The Martyrs* publication, so you can learn real-time ways to pray for and to help those who suffer for the testimony of our Lord.

## **WEEK THREE – GROUP DISCUSSION**

**Read 2 Timothy 1:13-18.**

What is sound teaching? According to Paul's writings, how can we evaluate if teaching is sound or not? If you were telling someone about your own church, how would you describe the teaching?

Talk about the gift entrusted to Timothy. Why does it need to be guarded? What good thing has been entrusted to you? What work have you had to do, to guard that gift? How has the Holy Spirit kept your gift ablaze?

Paul has been abandoned by almost everyone. What do you think he says to himself all day long, as he sits in prison?

Contrast Paul's spiritual gifting to that of Onesiphorus. How are they both important? With whom do you most identify and why? What does diligence look like in using your spiritual gift?

What example does Onesiphorus set for Timothy, in not being ashamed of the testimony of the Lord? How can we connect to and help our brothers and sisters who are suffering for the gospel in our time?

**Sermon Notes:**

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# Week Four



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## WEEK FOUR – DAY ONE

**Read 2 Timothy 2:1.**

Describe Paul's relationship with Timothy:

WHAT command does Paul give to Timothy?

From WHERE is Timothy to draw his strength?

What is the message about strength in our culture? From where do people draw strength?

WHAT is grace?

WHERE is grace found?

HOW is the grace of Christ a unique source of strength?

Read 2 Timothy 1:16. HOW is Paul's experience in prison likely connected to what he says in 2 Timothy 2:1?

List some specific ways God has strengthened you with the grace found in Christ:

## WEEK FOUR - DAY TWO

**Read 2 Timothy 2:2.**

**WHAT** did Timothy hear from Paul? Use information from chapter one to answer this question.

**WHERE** was Timothy when he heard Paul's message?

**WHAT** task does Paul give to Timothy?

To **WHAT** kind of men is Timothy to commit the message?

**WHAT** gift do these men need to have?

List the faithful people in your life who have taught you Paul's message of the gospel:



## WEEK FOUR – DAY THREE

**2 Timothy 1:8 and 2:3-4.**

WHAT command does Peter give twice?

WHAT image does Peter describe, to help Timothy understand WHY suffering is a given?

HOW is suffering connected to a soldier's life?

We see a lot of images for Jesus in the Bible –good shepherd, door, cornerstone –now we have the word “recruiter.” Describe the role of a military recruiter:

A good soldier aims to do WHAT?

Make a list of things you would say are the concerns of your everyday life:

How do you keep yourself disentangled from these and living to please the recruiter?

## WEEK FOUR – DAY FOUR

**Read 2 Timothy 2:3-5.**

WHAT command does Paul give in verse 3?

In verse 5, what image does he give to Timothy, to help him understand about suffering?

WHAT athlete goes home with the trophy, according to Paul?

Describe the athlete who does *not* compete according to the rules. What does he do? What is he thinking? What's important to him?

WHAT does a “winning athlete” have to do with Timothy? His mind? His actions? His purpose?

WHAT would you say are “the rules” for Timothy?

Compare your own life to that of an athlete. What does it mean for you to compete according to the rules, in a practical sense?

## WEEK FOUR – DAY FIVE

**Read 2 Timothy 2:3-6.**

WHAT image does Paul give Timothy in verse 6?

HOW does the labor of farming connect to suffering?

WHAT reward does the farmer get for his hard work?

Read 2 Timothy 2:3-6 again. Imagine if these are the only verses of the Bible you've ever seen.

How would you describe Christ?

How would you describe the motive for suffering for Christ?

**Read 2 Timothy 2:7.**

WHAT does Paul command Timothy to do?

WHY is it important for Timothy to roll around in his head these ideas about suffering?

WHAT is the Lord going to do, as Timothy makes the mental effort to think about Paul's words?

Look over 2 Timothy 3:6-7. Does your perspective about the Christian life match Paul's perspective? How do you need to adjust your thinking, to line up with the truth in these verses?

## WEEK FOUR – GROUP DISCUSSION

Read 2 Timothy 2:1-7.

What command does Paul give to Timothy? What is the message about strength in our culture, and how is the grace in Christ a unique source of strength? What are some ways you've been strengthened by that grace? Describe a time when God delivered strength through the grace gift of another believer, as we see in Paul's experience with Onesiphorus.

What is Timothy's task? Talk about the faithful people in your life who have taught you Paul's message of the gospel.

How is suffering connected to a soldier's life? Does your life swing more toward putting energy into the concerns of everyday life or into pleasing your Recruiter? What are some practical ways we can stay disentangled from civilian affairs?

Talk about competing athletes. What's the difference between the winner and loser? What does this mean to Timothy and to you?

How does the labor of farming connect to suffering?

Does your perspective on the Christian life match up with that of Paul's? What needs to change in your thinking, to line up with the truths you studied this week?





# Week Five



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## WEEK FIVE - DAY ONE

**Read 2 Timothy 2:8.**

**WHAT** command does Paul give to Timothy?

**Read Hebrews 12:1-3.**

**WHY** should a believer keep his eyes on Jesus?

**WHAT** will happen if he doesn't keep Jesus in mind, according to verse 3?

**Read 2 Timothy 2:8. WHAT** two things are true about Jesus?

**Read Isaiah 9:6-7. As a Pharisee, undoubtedly Paul would have had this prophetic passage about the Messiah memorized. HOW** does this passage undergird what Paul is saying in 2 Timothy 2:8?

**WHAT** part of Isaiah 9:6-7 is most encouraging to you today?



## **WEEK FIVE – DAY TWO**

**Read 2 Timothy 2:9.**

WHY is Paul suffering?

To WHAT point is Paul suffering?

WHAT is true about God's message?

Read Galatians 5:22-23.

WHAT is true about the fruit of God's Spirit?

HOW does this compare to 2 Timothy 2:9?

List places where sharing God's message is restricted in our country:

WHAT do you think Paul would say to Americans who are working under these restrictions?

How do you find ways to share the good news of Christ, despite restrictions?

## WEEK FIVE – DAY THREE

**Read 2 Timothy 2:10.**

**WHAT** does Paul endure?

For **WHOM** does he endure these things?

**WHY** does he endure all things?

**WHY** would Paul say “the elect” and then talk about them obtaining salvation? **WHAT** does he mean by this?

**WHERE** is salvation found?

Paul says salvation in Christ comes with eternal glory. Go to [blueletterbible.org](http://blueletterbible.org) and type “his glory” into the search bar. Choose your preferred Scripture translation. Read the list of verses that come up, and list some of what you learn about God’s glory:

Describe an experience you’ve had with God’s glory recently –something that took your breath away and made you say, “God is amazing.”

How does eternal glory affect your reaction to suffering now?

## WEEK FIVE - DAY FOUR

**Read 2 Timothy 2:11.**

Now read Paul's words in Romans 6:1-11, as he expands on this trustworthy saying. List all of the facts about dying with Christ and living with Christ:

Why is baptism connected to dying with Christ and living with Christ?

How have you been dying to your old self recently?

## **WEEK FIVE - DAY FIVE**

**Read 2 Timothy 2:12a.**

If we endure, **WHAT** will happen?

**Read James 1:12.**

**WHAT** do believers have to endure?

**WHAT** will happen after enduring?

**Read Hebrews 2:5-9.**

**WHAT** hasn't happened yet that will happen?

How does this connect to 2 Timothy 2:12?

Describe the opposite of enduring:

**Read 2 Timothy 2:12b.**

If we deny Christ, **WHAT** will he do?

**HOW** is denial in contrast to enduring?

**Read 2 Timothy 2:13.**

If we are faithless, **WHAT** will happen?

**WHY** does Christ remain faithful?

**Read 2 Timothy 2:11-13 again.** All through this letter, Paul has been encouraging Timothy to share in Christ's suffering. How do these three verses fit with that message?

These verses carry both great hope and sobering truth. Why are both of these valuable for your own life?

## WEEK FIVE – GROUP DISCUSSION

**Read 2 Timothy 2:8-13.**

What command does Paul give Timothy in verse 8? Compare Isaiah 9:6-7 to verse 8. How are these verses encouraging to you?

According to 2 Timothy 2:9, what is true about God's message? What do you think Paul would say to Americans who live or work where sharing their faith is restricted?

Paul says salvation in Christ comes with eternal glory. Share what you learned in your search about God's glory. How does the idea of eternal glory affect your reaction to suffering now? Describe an experience you've had with God's glory recently.

What does it mean to die with Christ and to live with Christ? After reading Romans 6:1-11, how is baptism connected to this dying and living? How have you been dying to your old self lately?

Read 2 Timothy 2:11-13. What is the hope and the sober truth mixed together in these verses? Why is it important for us to receive both?





# Week Six



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## WEEK SIX – DAY ONE

**Read 2 Timothy 2:14.**

Paul tells Timothy to remind the people of “these things.”  
List about **WHAT** things he’s talking:

**WHAT** charge is Timothy to give the people?

**WHAT** words do you think Paul means?

**WHAT** is the result of fighting about words?

Read Paul’s words in Ephesians 4:29. Instead of fighting about words, **WHAT** does Paul expect believers to do?

**HOW** does Ephesians 4:29 compare to 2 Timothy 2:14?

In what ways do you regularly build others up with your words?

## **WEEK SIX - DAY TWO**

**Read 2 Timothy 2:15.**

**WHERE** does Paul want Timothy to put his energy?

**WHAT** kind of work is Timothy doing?

**HOW** is Timothy to handle the truth?

**WHY** does correct teaching require diligence?

**WHERE** might shame come into play?

If you're a Bible teacher, how does this verse affect you?

If you're not a Bible teacher, how does this verse apply to you?

## **WEEK SIX – DAY THREE**

**Read 2 Timothy 2:16-18.**

**WHAT** is Timothy to avoid?

**WHAT** does this kind of talk produce?

**WHAT** example does Paul specifically have in mind, when he warns against godless speech?

**WHAT** have Hymenaeus and Philetus done?

In **WHAT** way have they deviated from the truth?

**WHAT** effect is their speech having in the church?

Now that you know about Hymenaeus and Philetus, go back and read 2 Timothy 2:14-15. **WHAT** does Paul want Timothy to guard against?

Have you ever heard men speak at church about things that made your faith wobble? Describe that experience.

Read 2 Timothy 2:18 again. How do you know that your leaders at church are correctly handling the word of truth?

## **WEEK SIX - DAY FOUR**

**Read 2 Timothy 2:19a.**

**WHAT** has God put in place?

**HOW** is this foundation described?

**HOW** is this verse in contrast to 2 Timothy 2:16-18?

Re-read 2 Timothy from the beginning up to 2 Timothy 2:19a. What would you say is the foundation about which Paul is speaking, using only words from these verses to support your answer?

What do you think keeps a person from deviating from God's solid foundation of truth?

## WEEK SIX – DAY FIVE

**Read 2 Timothy 2:19b.**

**WHAT** two things are inscribed on God's foundation?

Imagine you're taking a walking tour of a city, and you come across a magnificent building. You pause and read the above inscription on the cornerstone. What impression do you get of the builder and his vision for the building?

Mentally continue to stand in front of this building, as you read Isaiah 28:16, 1 Timothy 3:15, John 10:14, and 1 Corinthians 8:3. List what you learn about the builder and his vision. How do these verses mesh with the inscription on God's foundation?

How is the inscription on the cornerstone encouraging to you?

How is it challenging to you?

## **WEEK SIX – GROUP DISCUSSION**

**Read 2 Timothy 2:14-19.**

With what is Timothy to charge the people? Why is it bad to fight about words? How does this verse contrast with Ephesians 4:29? How invested are you in benefitting and building up other people? How is this reflected in your speech?

Where does Paul want Timothy to put his energy? Why does correct teaching require diligence? What does 2 Timothy 2:15 mean for you?

Have you ever heard someone speak at church, in a way that deviated from the truth? How did you respond? Did this affect your faith? What do you think keeps a person from deviating from God's solid foundation of truth?

What is the inscription on God's foundation? How is this encouraging and challenging to you?







# Week Seven



**SMALL GROUP**  
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## **WEEK SEVEN - DAY ONE**

**Read 2 Timothy 2:20-21.**

**WHAT** is usually true in a large house?

**WHAT** is the difference in how the different bowls are used?

**WHAT** kind of bowl does Paul want people to be?

**WHAT** action should believers take?

Purify ourselves from **WHAT**?

If purified, **WHAT** four things will happen to the bowl?

Compare 2 Timothy 2:21 to 2:19b. **WHY** must we turn away from unrighteousness?

Do you feel useful to God? Do you feel prepared to do good work when God sets it in front of you?

How do you see your personal purification or lack thereof connected to your usefulness and preparedness?

## WEEK SEVEN - DAY TWO

**Read 2 Timothy 2:22.**

WHAT two actions does Paul tell Timothy to take?

WHAT is Timothy to flee?

Passions means desires, cravings or longings.

Make a list of things a young man might long for:

WHAT is Timothy to pursue?

Read 2 Timothy 2:19-21 again. HOW does 2 Timothy 2:22 continue Paul's line of thinking?

Describe the actions of fleeing and pursuing in your own life. Be specific:

## **WEEK SEVEN - DAY THREE**

**Read 2 Timothy 2:23.**

**WHAT** command does Paul give to Timothy?

**WHAT** kinds of disputes is Timothy likely to encounter?

**Compare** 2 Timothy 2:14-18 to 2:23.

**Read** 1 Timothy 6:3-5 and make two lists. First list all of the facts about the disputes Paul is describing. Then list all of the results of these types of disputes.

**Read** 2 Timothy 2:23 again. **WHAT** do these disputes breed?

**How** do you think we can discern if a dispute within the church is warranted or if it's foolish and arising from ignorance? **What** are the signs of a foolish dispute?

## WEEK SEVEN – DAY FOUR

### Read 2 Timothy 2:23-25.

What is a person's natural first instinct when a dispute begins?

HOW does Paul refer to the believer?

WHY is identifying one's self as the Lord's slave a crucial first step in responding to disputes?

WHAT does Paul forbid the Lord's slave to do?

HOW does Paul identify the person who has begun the dispute?

WHY doesn't Paul identify the instigator as a brother in Christ?

In 2 Timothy 2:23, Paul tells Timothy "to reject" foolish disputes. This word means to excuse one's self from an invitation to something. It also means to refuse, to decline, to shun, or to avoid.

List HOW Timothy is to respond to a foolish dispute:

How is it possible to reject a dispute while also instructing?

Have you ever found yourself confronted by someone in church who had a sick interest in disputes? If yes, how did you handle it? If you didn't respond according to Paul's instructions, how would you change your reaction, if you could go back and have another opportunity?

## **WEEK SEVEN - DAY FIVE**

**Read 2 Timothy 2:23-26.**

List **WHAT** you learn about the condition of the opposition:

**WHAT** does Paul hope, for those who start foolish disputes?

**Read 2 Timothy 1:8-10.**

**WHAT** is most important to Paul?

Think in slow motion for a minute. In the event that a servant of the Lord encounters a foolish dispute, list the thought processes he should walk through in response. Use Paul's own words as much as possible, and stick close to the gospel:

## **WEEK SEVEN – GROUP DISCUSSION**

**Read 2 Timothy 2:20-26.**

Describe the two kinds of bowls found in a large house. Do you feel like you are a “useful bowl” to God? What prepares a believer to be useful and prepared for the good work God has for him? How has personal purification increased your own usefulness?

Talk about the actions of fleeing and pursuing, as found in 2 Timothy 2:22. How have you seen these constant motions in your own life?

Describe disputes that sometimes arise within the church. If these are foolish, what can be the result? How can we discern if a dispute is arising out of ignorance and conceit?

Why is identifying one’s self as the Lord’s slave a crucial first step in responding to disputes?

In case of a dispute, describe the thought processes a follower of Christ should walk through, using Paul’s own words as much as possible.







# Week Eight



**SMALL GROUP**  
ministry

## WEEK EIGHT - DAY ONE

### Read 2 Timothy 3:1.

WHAT does Paul command Timothy to know?

Difficult means hard to do, to take, to approach, to bear. Troublesome, dangerous, harsh, fierce, savage.

WHEN will the difficult times come?

HOW does this verse land on the ears of an American?

WHAT do people tend to do differently, when they're informed that something difficult is ahead?

Paul is asking Timothy to start looking at everything that comes through this lens of understanding. The times are going to become increasingly harsh and dangerous. Take a minute to consider your own experiences through this lens of understanding. How do you see situations becoming more fierce

-at work

-on the roads

-in politics

-when waiting in line

-in your city

## **WEEK EIGHT - DAY TWO**

**Read 2 Timothy 3:1-5.**

**WHY** will times be difficult in the last days?

**HOW** will people be? Make a list:

Now go back and check all of the characteristics that you have personally witnessed in men these days.

**Read John 17:17.**

**WHAT** is God's word?

Look at the above list you just made. Would you say God's words written through Paul's hands are true? Why or why not?

**Read John 17:11-19.**

**WHAT** is true of followers of Christ, according to verse 16?

In light of 2 Timothy 3:2-5, what do you think it means to be "not of the world"?

What if evil people are your coworkers or family members? How will you obey 2 Timothy 3:5?

## WEEK EIGHT - DAY THREE

**Read 2 Timothy 3:1-7.**

Among these people Paul is describing, WHAT will some of the men do, according to verse 6?

Describe the women who will let these kinds of men into their homes:

The word idle means little or foolish and is used contemptuously.

Why is it important for Timothy to know there will be men and women like this?

How does 2 Timothy 3:6-7 inspire you to be a better man or woman?

## WEEK EIGHT - DAY FOUR

**Read 2 Timothy 3:6-8.**

List the additional information Paul gives about these men, according to verse 8:

Read Exodus 6:28 through chapter 7.

The specific names of Jannes and Jambres are not mentioned here. **WHAT** are they called?

**WHAT** do these magicians do?

**HOW** do these magicians do the same things as Moses?

How do these men compare to the men against whom Paul is warning Timothy?

Compare 2 Timothy 3:5 to 3:8. Describe the faith of these men:

We live in a culture that tells us not to be judgmental about people. How does 2 Timothy 3:2-8 strike you, in regard to judgment?

## **WEKE EIGHT - DAY FIVE**

**Read 2 Timothy 3:8-9.**

According to verse 9, **WHAT** did Jannes and Jambres lack?

**WHY** do we stop seeing their progression against Moses after Exodus 7?

**HOW** did their lack of understanding become clear to all? (Consider Exodus 12:29-30.)

Read 2 Timothy 3:9 again. What will be true of men in the last days?

Compare 2 Timothy 3:8-9 to 2:16-19.

Read Proverbs 4:1-9.

**WHAT** does Solomon tell the young men is most valuable?

Compare this passage to 2 Timothy 3:1-9. Why is getting wisdom and understanding so important in these last days?

Read 1 Timothy 4:11-16. Contrast the word about progress here to Paul's words in 2 Timothy 3:1-9.

What is evident to people in your life?

## WEEK EIGHT – GROUP DISCUSSION

**Read 2 Timothy 3:1-9.**

WHAT does Paul command Timothy to know? How does a statement like this land on American ears?

Why will times be difficult in the last days? In what ways do you see people becoming like Paul says they will? What if these people are your coworkers or family –how will you obey verse 5?

Read John 17:16-19. We are being sanctified. Look at Paul's list in 2 Timothy 3:2-5 and talk about what sanctification looks like. How will we live, in contrast to people in the world? Be specific.

Read 2 Timothy 3:6-8. Describe the men and women found here. Have you ever witnessed something like this in your own life? Why do you think Timothy needs the heads up about these men and women? Is it okay for Timothy to make judgments about these people?

Compare men in the last days to the story of Moses and Jannes and Jambres. What was eventually true of Jannes and Jambres? Why is it so important for believers to get wisdom and understanding in these last days?







# Week Nine



**SMALL GROUP**  
ministry

## WEEK NINE – DAY ONE

**Read 2 Timothy 3:10-11.**

List **WHAT** Timothy has been observing in Paul's life:

**HOW** does Paul's example contrast to what you read in 2 Timothy 3:1-9?

Next to the words below, write specific examples of how you can live, in great contrast to how people live in these last days:

conduct

purpose

faith

patience

love

endurance

## **WEEK NINE - DAY TWO**

**Read 2 Timothy 3:12.**

WHAT is the fact?

HOW MANY will be persecuted?

**Read John 3:19-21.**

WHY will those who want to live a godly life be persecuted?

How does this passage compare to 2 Timothy 3:1-9?

How do you see persecution of godly men on the rise in the world?

Yesterday you wrote about how you could live in contrast to how people generally are living these days. What consequences do you think you might suffer for this lifestyle?

## WEEK NINE - DAY THREE

**Read 2 Timothy 3:13.**

**WHO** is talked about in this verse?

**WHAT** will these people do?

How do you see Paul's prediction coming true these days?

Flip Paul's words in verse 13, to write a statement about who you are becoming. Search the Bible and use truth from Scripture to complete this statement: As a child of God, I am becoming...

## WEEK NINE - DAY FOUR

**Read 2 Timothy 3:14-15.**

In contrast to evil people and imposters, **WHAT** does Paul want Timothy to do?

**WHAT** does this passage tell us about the importance of teaching children the Scriptures?

**WHAT** are the Scriptures able to do?

Timothy is already a follower of Christ. **WHY** would he need to be instructed in salvation? Read Hebrews 2:1-3, to assist you in formulating an answer.

How does the story of salvation encourage you, as you see men becoming more and more evil these days?

## **WEEK NINE – DAY FIVE**

**Read 2 Timothy 3:16-17.**

**HOW** did Scripture come about?

**HOW** do you think this sets Scripture apart from other religious writings in the world?

**WHAT** adjective is used to describe Scripture, in verse 16?

How has Scripture profited you in these ways? Write some specific examples:

**WHAT** is the purpose of Scripture, according to verse 17?

If a person does not submit to the teaching, rebuking, correction, and training of Scripture, what will be true of his life?

Read Ephesians 2:10. **WHAT** has God done?

Do you feel complete and equipped to do good work in this evil world? If yes, how did you get to be that way?

If no, what needs to change in your daily life, so that you will be complete and equipped?



## WEEK NINE – GROUP DISCUSSION

**Read 2 Timothy 3:10-17.**

Talk through Paul's list in verse 10. In what specific ways can we live in great contrast to how most people live in these last days? What consequences do you think you could face, for choosing to live this way?

Read verse 13 again. How do you see Paul's prediction coming true? In contrast, what is the child of God becoming?

Evil men and imposters will become worse, but what does Paul want Timothy to do? What is Scripture able to do, according to verse 15? Why does Timothy need to be instructed about salvation, if he's already a follower of Christ? How does the story of salvation encourage you, as you see the rise of evil men these days?

Why is it important to teach children the Scriptures? How are you doing this?

According to verse 17, where is any good going to come from in this dark, evil world? How does Scripture work, to complete and equip a follower of Christ to do good? How has Scripture specifically made you feel ready to do good?

Despite our evil culture, there are a lot of people who do good works in this world but who are not followers of Christ. How do you think Scripture makes the good done by a believer different than the good done by a nonbeliever?





# Week Ten



**SMALL GROUP**  
ministry

## WEEK TEN - DAY ONE

**Read 2 Timothy 4:1.**

**WHAT** is Paul giving to Timothy?

In **WHAT** tone is he giving it?

**WHO** is witness to this charge?

**WHAT** do you learn about Christ Jesus in this verse?

What kinds of occasions warrant a charge this serious?

Has anyone ever given you a solemn charge like this? If yes, describe your experience:

## WEEK TEN - DAY TWO

**Read 2 Timothy 4:1-2.**

**WHAT** charge does Paul give to Timothy?

**WHAT** is the message? (See 2 Timothy 1:8-10.)

**WHAT** three actions does proclaiming the message include, according to 2 Timothy 4:2?

**WHEN** is Timothy supposed to proclaim the message?

**HOW** is he supposed to approach people with the message?

**WHY** would proclaiming the message of Christ require great patience?

**WHY** do you think Paul tells Timothy to be a teacher? What unique perspective do teachers have, in regard to getting a message across?

Imagine you've been invited to this very formal ceremony, where Paul calls Timothy to the podium. You see God and his Son seated in places of great honor behind Timothy. Paul places his right hand on Timothy's shoulder and charges him to proclaim the message of Christ. On your way home from the ceremony, what are you thinking about? How have you been affected by witnessing this solemn charge?

## WEEK TEN - DAY THREE

**Read 2 Timothy 4:3.**

WHAT time will come?

WHO is “they”? Look backward in chapter three to answer this.

WHAT will men accumulate for themselves?

HOW will people decide what kind of teachers they will allow into their lives?

WHAT will people want to hear?

**Read Hebrews 2:1-3.**

To WHAT message are we supposed to pay attention?

Is this a new message?

As a follower of Christ, for what kinds of teachers should you look, and what message should they be giving you?

## WEEK TEN - DAY FOUR

**Read 2 Timothy 4:4.**

**WHO** is “they”?

**WHAT** will they turn away from?

**WHAT** will they turn toward?

“Myth” means an invented story.

Picture a world where people are only willing to look for books in the fiction section of the library, and they’re choosing to base their whole lives on the stories they find there. As a follower of Christ, how will you keep from being sucked into believing all of this fiction?



## WEEK TEN - DAY FIVE

### Read 2 Timothy 4:5.

Paul uses the phrase of contrast “but as for you.” What doesn’t Paul want Timothy to be like? Read 2 Timothy 4:3-4 to help answer this.

In 2 Timothy 4:5, list how Paul wants Timothy to live, in contrast to the people he was just describing.

With 2 Timothy 4:3-4 in mind, what hardship do you think Timothy will face as an evangelist?

“Keep a clear head” means to be sober, to be calm and collected in spirit. How does this fit with Paul’s command to proclaim the message with great patience? Think of what Timothy’s natural response might be when people only want fiction and when they turn away from him when he proclaims the truth.

If people aren’t going to want truth, then why should Timothy even try to proclaim the message of Christ? Isn’t he doomed for failure? Read 2 Timothy 2:23-26 and 4:1 to help answer this question.

What motivates you to share the truth of Christ with people, even knowing they might not want to hear truth?

## WEEK TEN - GROUP DISCUSSION

**Read 2 Timothy 4:1-5.**

What occasions warrant a solemn charge? Who is witness to the charge Paul gives to Timothy?

What charge is given? What is the message? Describe how Timothy is to proclaim the message -what actions does this include and what approach should he have?

Why would proclaiming the gospel require great patience?

Why teaching? What is unique about a teacher's perspective?

How does witnessing this solemn charge affect you?

What time will come? What message will men be looking for? As a follower of Christ, to what kinds of teachers should you be listening? What is the "old" message to which we should be clinging? How can you keep from getting sucked into believing myths?

According to 2 Timothy 4:5, what does Paul want Timothy to do? Why should we even try to share the truth of Christ with people, if we know it's likely they won't want to hear truth?





# Week Eleven



**SMALL GROUP**  
ministry

## WEEK ELEVEN - DAY ONE

**Read 2 Timothy 4:6.**

WHAT is happening in Paul's life?

Read these passages and make notes about drink offerings:

Genesis 35:9-15

Exodus 29:38-46

Numbers 15:5-10

After reading the above passages, WHY do you think Paul refers to his life as a drink offering?

What tone of voice do you think Paul has in 2 Timothy 4:6?

WHAT word does Paul use to describe his imminent death?

WHY is it important, though, for Paul to talk to Timothy about his close "departure" date? How is it helpful to Timothy, instead of just a morbid conversation, as Americans would call it.

If you're closer to the "departure" side of life, to whom are you laboring to pass your mantle of service? How could you be more purposeful in doing this?

If you're more on the young-ish side of life, how purposeful are you in seeking the counsel and following the example of older believers? Do you humble yourself under their experience? Do you ask questions? Whom could you seek as a mentor (and totally make their day)?

## WEEK ELEVEN - DAY TWO

### Read 2 Timothy 4:7.

WHAT two images does Paul use to describe how he has lived?

Would you say Paul has been fighting *against* something or fighting *for* something? Use verses from 2 Timothy to support your answer.

Read 2 Timothy 3:10-11. WHY do you think Paul says he has fought a “good” fight? What’s good about it?

Read 2 Timothy 2:3-5. Paul’s thoughts on running a race are connected to WHAT idea in verse 3?

WHAT do you think Paul means when he says he has finished the race?

Paul says he has kept the faith. WHY is it a big deal that he is able to say this?

Paul looks back on his life and says, “I have \_\_\_\_\_.”  
Look back on this last year of your life. What do you have to say for yourself? Finish the phrase, “I have \_\_\_\_\_.”

## **WEEK ELEVEN - DAY THREE**

**Read 2 Timothy 4:8.**

To **WHAT** time does Paul look?

Read Hebrews 11:1-16.

To **WHAT** was Abraham looking forward? (v10)

**WHAT** was the aspiration of those listed in Hebrews 11?

**WHAT** has God prepared for them?

Read 2 Timothy 4:8 again.

**WHAT** has God reserved for Paul?

For **WHOM** else has God reserved a crown of righteousness?

**WHY** would these be the people who have a crown waiting for them?

Read Paul's words in Romans 7:13-25 and compare them to 2 Timothy 4:8.

**WHAT** does Paul know to be true about himself? (v18)

After reading Paul's wailing about his sinful condition, **WHY** do you think he says the crown of righteousness is for those who love the appearance of Christ?

In what ways have you been keenly aware lately that nothing good lives in your flesh? Be specific.

How does this awareness make you feel about the future appearance of Christ?



## **WEEK ELEVEN - DAY FOUR**

**Read 2 Timothy 4:8.**

**HOW** does Paul describe God?

**Read Psalm 7:9-11.**

**WHO** is God?

**WHAT** does he do every day?

**WHAT** does he examine?

**WHERE** is David's shield?

**WHY** is it important to know where one's shield is?

**WHAT** does David want to happen?

**Compare Psalm 7:9-11 to 2 Timothy 4:8. How are they similar?**

**Consider David's circumstances (Psalm 7:9) and Paul's circumstances (2 Timothy 2:9 and 4:6). How are they similar?**

**WHY** is the role of righteous judge so important to Paul and to David, given their circumstances?

**HOW** is God's quality of being a righteous judge a shield to you right now?

## WEEK ELEVEN - DAY FIVE

**Read 2 Timothy 4:8.**

**WHAT** is reserved for Paul?

**Read James 1:2-4, 12.**

**WHAT** are trials really?

**WHAT** does the test produce?

**WHAT** work is endurance doing?

**WHY** is a man blessed when he endures various trials?

**WHO** gets a crown of life?

In 2 Timothy 4:7, what do Paul's statements have to do with getting a crown (keeping in mind the passage from James)?

Compare the verses in James to what Paul has been telling Timothy all along.

**WHAT** various trials might Timothy face?

Write out the statements in 2 Timothy where Paul addresses Timothy's need to endure trials:

What trials have you faced recently? Describe your level of endurance and keeping the faith under these circumstances:

## WEEK ELEVEN – GROUP DISCUSSION

**Read 2 Timothy 4:6-8.**

What is happening to Paul? Why do you think he describes himself as a drink offering?

What word does Paul use to describe his imminent death? How does this word reveal Paul's mindset? Why is it important for Paul to talk candidly with Timothy about his death? Discuss mentoring. Depending on your age, do you purposefully mentor someone younger, in your service to the church, or do you seek the wisdom of someone older? Describe your experience in this or maybe your plan to make it happen.

Paul looks back on his life and says he has done what three things? What do you think he means by the expression "good fight"? As you look back on this last year of your life, what do you have to say for yourself?

Read 2 Timothy 4:8 again. To what is Paul looking forward? Read Romans 7:18. What does Paul know to be true about himself? Why can he say a crown of righteousness is waiting for him? How does your own awareness of your wretchedness affect how you feel about the return of Christ?

Read Psalm 7:9-11. Describe who God is and how he acts. Why is the righteous judge a shield to David and to Paul? How is he a shield to you right now?

How is endurance connected to getting a crown? Describe a trial you went through recently, in which you endured and kept the faith. How did you experience a growth in maturity through that experience?





# Week Twelve



**SMALL GROUP**  
ministry

## WEEK TWELVE - DAY ONE

**Read 2 Timothy 4:9-13.**

Describe Paul's circumstances:

WHAT does Paul want Timothy to do?

WHY does Paul want Timothy to come soon?

WHY has Demas deserted Paul?

Read 2 Timothy 4:8. Given Paul's perspective, how do you think he felt when Demas deserted him?

Read 2 Timothy 4:6 and compare it to 2 Timothy 4:11. If Paul is about to depart, why ask for Mark?

Americans generally live for retirement and the ability to play golf in their old age. What do you think Paul would say to us about this, based on what you've read in 2 Timothy 4?

Take a lesson from the desertion of Demas. In what ways are you loving this present world more than you love the appearance of Christ? Be specific in your confession:

## WEEK 12 – DAY TWO

**Read 2 Timothy 4:14-15.**

**WHO** is Alexander?

**WHAT** did he do?

**HOW** did he harm Paul?

**WHAT** does Paul say will happen to Alexander?

**WHAT** does Timothy need to do?

**WHY** does he need to watch out?

Read 2 Timothy 4:8 again. How is this verse more meaningful, once you know about Paul's experience with Alexander?

Paul tells Timothy to watch out for Alexander. How does that work, in light of Paul's instructions in 2 Timothy 2:24-26?

How do you see people strongly opposing the words of the gospel today?

How can you prepare to respond well, to someone who works to oppose what you believe about Christ?



## WEEK TWELVE - DAY THREE

**Read 2 Timothy 4:16.**

What verses in 2 Timothy give you a clue as to what Paul means by “first defense”?

WHAT happened at his first defense?

WHAT does Paul want for those who deserted him?

Describe a time when someone abandoned you when you needed them:

What did you want for that person?

## **WEEK TWELVE – DAY FOUR**

**Read 2 Timothy 4:16-17.**

**WHAT** happened at Paul's first defense, according to verse 17?

**WHY** did the Lord strengthen Paul?

**Read 2 Timothy 1:11-12. HOW** does Paul's experience at his first defense help explain his confidence here?

**Read Luke 2:25-32. The Messiah** has come for what two purposes, according to verse 32?

**Read Acts 9:1-15. WHAT** has God chosen Paul to do?

**As a Gentile, what response** do you have when you read about God's intent toward the Gentiles?

## **WEEK TWELVE – DAY FIVE**

**Read 2 Timothy 4:18-22.**

**WHAT** does Paul declare in verse 18?

**HOW** does verse 18 compare to 2 Timothy 4:6-8?

**Compare 2 Timothy 4:17-18 to 4:16. HOW** do you think Paul's experience of being deserted had a positive impact on his relationship with the Lord?

**Describe** a painfully lonely or humiliating experience in your life that actually caused your relationship with Jesus to deepen and become richer:

## **WEEK TWELVE - GROUP DISCUSSION**

**Read 2 Timothy 4:9-22.**

What are Paul's circumstances? What does he want Timothy to do? Why would Paul ask for Mark, when he knows his life is coming to a close? What would Paul say to Americans about the retirement years? As you thought about Demas, what Did God show you about your own love for this world?

Describe Paul's experience with Alexander, along with his response. Paul tells Timothy to watch out for Alexander, but how does that fit with Paul's instructions in 2 Timothy 2:24-26? How can you prepare yourself to respond to someone who strongly opposes what you say you believe about Christ?

What does Paul mean by his "first defense"? What happened at his first defense? What does Paul want for those who deserted him? Have you ever experienced abandonment like this? What did you want for the person?

Besides being abandoned by everyone, what else did Paul experience at his first defense? Why did the Lord strengthen Paul? How do you think this experience is behind Paul's statement in 2 Timothy 2:11-12? As a Gentile, what is your response to reading about God's intent toward Gentiles?

How do you think Paul's experience of being deserted had a positive effect on his relationship with the Lord? Describe a time when something painful in your own experience deepened your relationship with Jesus.



