

ORCHARD ROAD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

BIBLE FOR ALL (BFA) MATERIAL FOR SMALL GROUPS DISCUSSION

2 Timothy – A Church Faithful to the Gospel

Sermon Series

07, 14 November 2021

2 Timothy 4:1-8

Finishing Well

21 November 2021

2 Tim 4:9-22

Concluding Remarks

2 TIMOTHY

FOLLOWING JESUS INVOLVES **RISK & TENSION**

THIS IS NOT A SIGN OF JESUS' ABSENCE

IN DARK & DIFFICULT MOMENTS, JESUS' LOVE & FAITHFULNESS BECOME TANGIBLE & REAL

4:6-22 CONCLUSION

THE TIME OF MY DEPARTURE IS NEAR — COME BEFORE WINTER.

BRING MY HEAVY COAT (IT'S GETTING COLD)

BRING MY SCROLLS & OTHER DOCUMENTS

WATCH OUT FOR ALEXANDER (HE'S DANGEROUS)

ALMOST EVERYONE HAS ABANDONED ME, EXCEPT JESUS WHO STANDS WITH ME.

2:14-4:5 ... & DEAL WITH CORRUPT TEACHERS

THE RESURRECTION HAS ALREADY TAKEN PLACE! (2:18)

OR

FOLLOWING GREEK PHILOSOPHY'S REJECTION OF SOULY RESURRECTION

DISTORTING PAUL'S THEOLOGY OF RESURRECTION BEGINS

BOTTOM LINE: THEY'VE ABANDONED THE HOPE OF RESURRECTION & NEW CREATION.

APPOINT FAITHFUL PEOPLE WHO WILL TEACH OTHERS (2:24)

FOCUS ON THE CORE STORY & MESSAGE OF THE SCRIPTURES

... & USEFUL FOR TEACHING, CHALLENGING, CORRECTING, & TRAINING IN RIGHTEOUSNESS, SO THAT GOD'S PEOPLE ARE PREPARED FOR DOING GOOD." (3:15-17)

SCRIPTURE'S PURPOSE

GOD'S SPIRIT GUIDED THE AUTHORS, SO WHAT THEY WROTE IS WHAT GOD WANTS PEOPLE TO HEAR.

SCRIPTURE'S NATURE

1:1-2:13 ACCEPT YOUR CALLING...

PHILEGELUS & HERMOGENES (1:15)

PAUL FORGET THEM!

LET'S IN A PRISON TOGETHER!

DON'T BE ASHAMED OF THE GOSPEL OR MY CHAINS. COME SEE ME, PLEASE!

NEGATIVE STIGMA

BIG RISK!

I THINK GOD FOR YOU & LOSE & EUNICE.

DEAR TIMOTHY,

IF HE **DIED** WITH HIM, THEN HE **WILL LIVE** WITH HIM. IF HE **ENDURED**, THEN HE **WILL REIGN** WITH HIM. IF HE **DIED** HIM, THEN HE **WILL DIE** US. IF HE **ARE UNFAITHFUL**, HE **WILL REMAIN UNFAITHFUL**, FOR HE IS **UNABLE TO DENY HIS OGAN NATURE.**

FAITHFULNESS TO JESUS COMES WITH A COST.

PAUL'S IMPRISONMENT IN ROME

HOUSE OF A LATER ROMAN ARREST IMPRISONMENT IN ACTS 28 (2:11-15:15)

TIMOTHY, THE TRIALS NOT GOING WELL, I DON'T HAVE LONG, COME SOON. — PAUL

MEANWHILE, IN EPHESUS...

7:1-13 JESUS' GRACE IS A SOURCE OF POWER (2:1) TO BECOME LIKE...

- SOLDIER**
- FARMER**
- PAUL**
- ATHLETE**
- JESUS**

COMMITTED TO SOMETHING BIGGER THAN THEMSELVES
WILLING TO SACRIFICE & ENDURE FOR A GREATER GOAL

created by the Bible Project

07, 14 November 2021

2 Timothy 4:1-8

Finishing Well

What is the hardest thing you've ever finished/completed/accomplished? What was it like going through it all? What was it like to finish?

OBSERVATION AND INTERPRETATION

1. Read 2 Tim 4:1-5.

(a) Paul charges Timothy to preach the Word – how is he to do this? (vv.1-2)

(b) Why is it important that Paul is giving Timothy this charge “in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom”? (v.1)

(c) What gives us the courage and the conviction to “correct, rebuke, and encourage”? (See also 2 Tim 3:14-17.) Who should we be doing these for, and how is this different from the way the world tells us we should treat each other?

(d) Paul says that Timothy must do the word of preaching the Word “with great patience and careful instruction”. Why is this needed? Why do you think Paul’s instructions are appropriate for the situation? (vv.3-4)



“For” usually indicates that the next line will give a reason.

(e) Timothy is instructed with another set of imperatives in v.5 – how is the life of Timothy to be in contrast with those described in vv.3-4?

2. Read 2 Tim 4:6-8.

(a) What is Paul saying about his life and ministry in vv.6-7?

(b) What condition(s) is/are there for someone to receive the crown of righteousness? (v.8)

3. What do Paul's statements in vv.6-8 have to do with his instructions to Timothy in vv.1-5? How do they form one coherent message?
4. In what way(s) is/are the situation described by Paul in 2 Tim 4:3-4 the same as the one we face now? What are our responsibilities as an individual and as a church then?

APPLICATION

5. Paul's message in 2 Tim 4:1-8 describes people who suit their own desires by seeking out teachers who tell them what they want to hear. What might be some signs that we are also suffering from this same problem?
6. Though we are not all called to be ministers or evangelists, each of us are still meant to testify about Jesus (John 15:26-27). Will we accept that task? What would you say if someone asked you about what Jesus has been doing in your life recently?

REFLECTION

Write down a key lesson and a key verse from this study.

How should we pray and change in response to what we have learnt?

DISCIPLESHIP IN COMMUNITY

- **Share:** Reflect and share with your group members a time when you were corrected, rebuked and/or encouraged by someone. Who was this person and how did you respond to the event?
- **Pray:** As a group, praise God for who He is, what He has done and what He will do. Give thanks for those who have preached the Word to you, including those who have corrected, rebuked and encouraged you. Pray that God will keep your hearts true to Him and your ears and mind seeking Him. Pray that this group will keep each other accountable for this.
- **Serve:** Share with your group what ministry God has called you to serve in (including outside of ORPC) and what it means for you to read 2 Tim 4:1-8 as you serve God in that area.

21 November 2021
2 Tim 4:9-22
Concluding Remarks

What would it take for you to trust others after having been betrayed by another?

OBSERVATION AND INTERPRETATION

1. Read 2 Tim 4:9-13.
 - (a) What instructions was Paul giving Timothy here?

 - (b) Why were Paul's requests so urgent?

2. Read 2 Tim 4:14-18.
 - (a) Why did Paul mention Alexander the metalworker? What is Timothy supposed to do, and how? (vv.14-15; see also 2 Tim 1:13-14, 2:1-3. 2:15, 2:23-26, 4:2)

 - (b) What has Paul's experience been of men's loyalty/faithfulness to him in times of trouble? How did he respond to it?

 - (c) What has Paul's experience been of God's loyalty/faithfulness to him in times of trouble? How did he respond to it?

3. Read 2 Tim 4:19-22. Paul mentions two more sets of names – the names are of beloved gospel partners in Ephesus and in Rome. What does this tell you about how Paul regards his relationships with people? Consider this in light of what is mentioned in verses 10 and 16.

4. What does 2 Tim 4:9-22 show us about how Paul responds to both the certainty of men's fallibility and the certainty of God's faithfulness?

5. Consider the whole of 2 Timothy. How would you describe Paul as a follower of Christ? Based on what Paul has said here, what kind of man do you think he wants Timothy to be?

APPLICATION

6. Compare our attitudes towards our fellow Christians and towards God with Paul's attitude. In what ways could we seek to emulate Paul?
7. How has God been shaping and forming you as we studied 2 Timothy?

REFLECTION

Write down a key lesson and a key verse from this study.

How should we pray and change in response to what we have learnt?

DISCIPLESHIP IN COMMUNITY

- **Lectio Divina:** Take turns to read Psalm 22 aloud. Pause after each reading to contemplate the text. After two or three people have read the text aloud, share with each other what struck you most.
- **Scripture Meditation:** Search back through all of 2 Timothy to find Scriptures you need to be reminded of. What has God put on your heart through His Word through this letter? Pick a handful of verses and share them with your group. Remind each other of these verses throughout November and December.
- **Reach Out:** As a group, consider how you can extend care to other Christians both inside and outside your small group, through visits, calls, messages, and/or other means. Commit to extending this care as part of your small group activities each month.