
2Timothy

The book of **2Timothy** is Paul's final letter. During this time, he faced death in prison (**2Tim 1:2, 2Tim 4:6-8**). Paul wanted Timothy to endure suffering and hardship in ministry (**2Tim 1:4-12, 2Tim 2:1-3, 2Tim 3:12**) and remain a faithful minister of God's Word (**2Tim 1:13, 2Tim 2:15, 2Tim 3:15-16, 2Tim 4:2-3**).

Paul challenged Timothy to preach the Word and to always be ready to convince, rebuke, and exhort. Some people will drift away; we must stand firm in the Word and not let them distract us.

Paul emphasized the importance of loyalty noting that there will be some who oppose us as believers. Don't look for human accolades. Seek to please God.

Outline

Call of God's Servant	2Tim 1:1-11
Cause of God's Servant	2Tim 1:12-18
Character of God's Servant	2Tim 2:1-13
Commission of God's Servant	2Tim 2:14-26
Coming Challenge of God's Servant	2Tim 3:1-17
Charge of God's Servant	2Tim 4:1-6
Course of God's Servant	2Tim 4:7-16
Crown of God's Servant	2Tim 4:17-22

Personal Reflection and Application

Christ will judge all believers (**2Tim 4:1-5**).

- Are you able to give a godly response in all circumstances (all **seasons**)?
- Will you stay true to God's Word during the hard **times**?
- What can you do to keep **things** from distracting you from your walk with God?

To be growing spiritually, we need someone who feeds us and we, in turn, need to feed someone. You don't really know something until you teach it to someone else (**2Tim 2:1-2**). The process of explaining an idea to someone else forces you to clarify it for yourself. It becomes real to you. At that point, you OWNit. With whom are you discussing what you learn in your daily Bible reading (child, spouse, friend, other)?

Small Group Conversation Guide

Read [2Timothy 1:5](#). Discuss the importance of people's influence on one another. Who has had a good influence in your life? In what ways are you being a good influence on others? Pray for God to help each of you be a good influence on others.

Some people soak up facts without really learning anything ([2Tim 3:7-14](#)). When a trial comes, they are surprised and turn to all the wrong places for comfort and help. Simply acquiring facts about the Bible is of little practical use. You can have a head full of knowledge and still look for love in all the wrong places.

- We should anticipate some suffering ([2Tim 3:12](#)).
- We should stay true to God's Word ([2Tim 3:14](#)).

Discuss how this can help us handle trials in life. Where is the right place to look for love?

[2Timothy 3:16](#) says that all Scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable for doctrine, reproof, correction, and instruction in righteousness. It is important to be in God's Word regularly so it can adjust our thinking and teach us to live the life God desires for us. Most of us stop there and miss a key point. Read the next verse ([2Tim 3:17](#)). It contains one of the most critical reasons to read and study scripture. What does it mean to be "complete" and "thoroughly equipped for every good work"? Also see [Ephesians 2:10](#) and [Colossians 1:10-11](#).

Leadership Principles from 2Timothy

Stir Up Your Gifts

Paul told Timothy to **stir up** the gift of God which was in him ([2Tim 1:6](#)). Picture stirring up a fire under barely glowing embers. With a little stirring, you get heat and a flame. Are you exercising the gifts God gave you? If not, they will begin to cool off under the embers. God gave you gifts for a reason ([1Pet 4:10](#)). Use them. Stir them up and watch God refine and strengthen them for His purposes. When others notice, praise God. Encourage them to stir up their gifts so they may experience God's powerful purpose for their lives as well.

Remind Them

As a leader, you may wish that saying something one time would be enough. Consider that God repeats key things in His Word. Even when we know something, we need reminders and encouragement to be diligent and not stray from the Truth. Paul instructed Timothy to "**remind them**" ([2Tim 2:14-18](#)). Being an effective leader requires hard work. Paul used the terms **diligent** and **worker**. For God's approval, you'll need to apply constant care and industry to the study of His Word. This will allow you to give your best to those under your care.

Crown of Righteousness

If you fight the good fight and finish the course God sets, you receive a crown of righteousness **2Tim 4:7-16**. Imagine the honor of having something to lay at His feet (**Rev 4:10**). Paul made it clear that not

everyone will resist the pull of the world. What precautions do you take to protect yourself so you are able to stay on course? In what way can you assist those under your care to protect themselves?

Something to Find in Each Chapter

As you read through the book, it may help to have something to find in each chapter. Try these:

O1. What kind of spirit God did and did not give us	O2. Why we need the strength of a soldier and athlete
O3. Why we need the Scripture in our lives	O4. What Paul said people will someday reject for fables