

2 TIMOTHY

FIND A DIFFERENT STRENGTH



Welcome to our first sermon series booklet for 2024.

At St Matts, we exist to be a community of lifelong disciples of Jesus engaging our world with grace and truth. A key part of this growth happens as we engage with the word of God. Taking time to reflect on the word of God as it's preached, meeting with others to study the word of God more deeply and taking time to engage personally with the word of God devotionally are all God's gracious provision for our flourishing.

Our theme for 2024 is "BOLD". We have just spent some time together thinking about what it means to be bold. We also acknowledge that being bold for Jesus in our day and age is not easy. Our series in 2 Timothy aims to remind us that while we may face opposition and hardship because of what we believe, God has given us his Spirit of power, and the gospel of Jesus is a message that's worth sharing. We trust that God uses his word and the encouragement of his people (your community group) to increase our boldness for him, that he might be honoured as people come to know the Lord Jesus.

If you are new to these booklets, the booklet provides you with 4 key things that will help you get the most out of 2 Timothy.

1. Each week you have the text of the sermon for you to read, markup and consider questions and challenges it presents before the Sunday it is preached upon. For copyright reasons we will now publish the Berean Standard Bible (BSB). It's very close in translation to the NIV, which we use to preach. You will notice some differences. Often it can be helpful to engage with more than one translation to gain a fuller sense of meaning in the original language. We trust you will find it helpful rather than distracting.
2. The blank page following the text is for sermon notes. Write down idea's, questions and key points that come out of the sermon. Creative doodling is fine too :)
3. Questions are provided for Community groups, should they wish. You may like to use resources such as bible.org to supplement your study
4. Finally, you will find a structure and space for four personal devotions each week. Use the blank space to engage with God's word however you'd like, with text or pictures or other creative endeavours. We encourage you to spend time in prayer for things that come up in your devotional time, as well as praying for other matters.

I look forward with confidence to seeing how God continues to grow us as lifelong disciples of Jesus, making us strong in Christ.

In Grace and Truth, Ron

2 Timothy 1:1-18

¹ Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, according to the promise of life in Christ Jesus,

² To Timothy, my beloved child:

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

³ I thank God, whom I serve with a clear conscience as did my forefathers, as I constantly remember you night and day in my prayers. ⁴ Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy.

⁵ I am reminded of your sincere faith, which first dwelt in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am convinced is in you as well.

⁶ For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. ⁷ For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power, love, and self-control.

⁸ So do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, or of me, His prisoner. Instead, join me in suffering for the gospel by the power of God. ⁹ He has saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works, but by His own purpose and by the grace He granted us in Christ Jesus before time began. ¹⁰ And now He has revealed this grace through the appearing of our Savior, Christ Jesus, who has abolished death and illuminated the way to life and immortality through the gospel, ¹¹ to which I was appointed as a preacher, an apostle, and a teacher.

¹² For this reason, even though I suffer as I do, I am not ashamed; for I know whom I have believed, and I am convinced that He is able to guard what I have entrusted to Him for that day.

¹³ Hold on to the pattern of sound teaching you have heard from me, with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁴ Guard the treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit who dwells in us.

¹⁵ You know that everyone in the Province of Asia has deserted me, including Phygelus and Hermogenes.

¹⁶ May the Lord grant mercy to the household of Onesiphorus, because he has often refreshed me and was unashamed of my chains. ¹⁷ Indeed, when he arrived in Rome, he searched diligently until he found me.

¹⁸ May the Lord grant Onesiphorus His mercy on that day. You know very well how much he ministered to me in Ephesus.

Sermon Notes

2 Timothy 1:1-18

One takeaway for me:

Sunday 10 March 2024

Bible Study: 2 Timothy 1:1-8

Each of these Bible studies is written in different styles, to engage different people who learn in different ways. This first study uses the COMA method – Context, Observation, Meaning, Application.

Read 2 Timothy 1:1-18

1. **CONTEXT:** What do you know about the relationship between Paul and Timothy? (Hint: see Acts 16:1-5, Philippians 2:19-22)

Reread verses 1-6

2. **OBSERVATION:** Circle all the times that the words “remember,” “recall” or “remind” come up in the passage. What things does Paul remember?
3. **MEANING:** What does this show is important to Paul?

Reread verses 7-18

4. **OBSERVATIONS:** What are the instructions that Paul gives to Timothy? (See 8, 13-14). What does this suggest about Timothy’s circumstances?
5. Circle all the times the word “shame/ashamed,” or “timid” come up.
6. What examples does Paul give of people who were ashamed of the gospel? What about examples of people not being ashamed?
7. **MEANING:** Why might we be ashamed of the gospel? Can you think of times when you felt timid or ashamed for being a Christian?

8. OBSERVATION: Now circle the times that the words “power” or “convinced” comes up.
9. MEANING: How does this help us when we might feel timid or ashamed?
10. What role does the Holy Spirit play in all of this?

APPLICATION:

11. **Do not be ashamed.** What is one truth you want to take away from this study that will help you not to be ashamed of the gospel?
12. **Guard the good deposit.** What is one practical thing you can do this week to immerse yourself in the truth of the gospel?
13. What will it look like for you to be bold this week? What is one BOLD practice and one person that you can be intentional with this week?

Devotion 1 – Acts 16:1-15

Over our 2 Timothy series, the suggested devotionals go through the second half of Acts. In this section of Acts, you get to see some of Paul and Timothy's partnership in the work of the gospel, and how the disciples are emboldened to preach the message of Jesus, empowered by the Spirit.

GIST - *Briefly summarise the passage*

GEM - *What are things from this passage to treasure?*

JAMS - *Where in this passage do you get stuck? What questions does it raise for you?*

JESUS - *How does this passage point you to Jesus? How does it anticipate him, praise him or help you better understand him?*

JOB - *In light of what Jesus has already done for us, what are we called to do in response?*

Devotion 2 – Acts 16:16-40

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Week 1: 11-16 March 2024

Devotion 3 – Acts 17:1-15

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Devotion 4 – Acts 17:16-34

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

2 Timothy 2:1-13

¹ You therefore, my child, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. ² And the things that you have heard me say among many witnesses, entrust these to faithful people who will be qualified to teach others as well.

³ Join me in suffering, like a good soldier of Christ Jesus. ⁴ A soldier refrains from entangling himself in civilian affairs, in order to please the one who enlisted him. ⁵ Likewise, a competitor does not receive the crown unless he competes according to the rules. ⁶ The hardworking farmer should be the first to partake of the crops. ⁷ Consider what I am saying, for the Lord will give you insight into all things.

⁸ Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, descended from David, as proclaimed by my gospel, ⁹ for which I suffer to the extent of being chained like a criminal. But the word of God cannot be chained! ¹⁰ For this reason I endure all things for the sake of the elect, so that they too may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory.

¹¹ This is a trustworthy saying:

If we died with Him,
we will also live with Him;
¹² if we endure,
we will also reign with Him;
if we deny Him,
He will also deny us;
¹³ if we are faithless,
He remains faithful,
for He cannot deny Himself.

Sermon Notes

2 Timothy 2:1-13

One takeaway for me:

Sunday 17 March 2024

Bible Study: 2 Timothy 2:1-13

Pray and Read 2 Timothy 2:1-13

1. What three instructions does Paul give to Timothy in verse 1-3?
2. Split into three groups, and each take one of the metaphors. Fill out the table below from verse 4-6.

Metaphor	The Suffering they experience	The reward they get	What is the meaning of the metaphor?
Soldier			
Competitor			
Farmer			

3. (Optional creative fun) In your same groups, come up with a modern-day metaphor with the same meaning.
4. How does Paul explain the gospel in verse 8? Is this different to how you would you would explain the gospel?
5. Paul talks about his own suffering in verses 9-10. How does his example relate to vs 8? How does his example relate to verse 3-6?

6. Verse 11-13 are probably a song or saying that early Christians knew. What is comforting in these words, and what is challenging?

7. (Optional creative fun): Rewrite these verses as a poem in your own words!

8. How does the song in verse 11-13 fit in with the theme of suffering and reward that we've seen in this passage?

Application:

9. What suffering for the gospel are you likely to experience? How will you endure this suffering?

10. What will it look like for you to be bold this week? What is one BOLD practice and one person that you can be intentional with this week?

Devotion 1 – Acts 18:1-17

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Devotion 2 – Acts 18:18-28

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Devotion 3 – Acts 19:1-22

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Devotion 4 – Acts 19:23-41

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

2 Timothy 2:14-26

¹⁴ Remind the believers of these things, charging them before God to avoid quarreling over words, which succeeds only in leading the listeners to ruin.

¹⁵ Make every effort to present yourself approved to God, an unashamed worker who accurately handles the word of truth.

¹⁶ But avoid irreverent, empty chatter, which will only lead to more ungodliness, ¹⁷ and the talk of such people will spread like gangrene. Among them are Hymenaeus and Philetus, ¹⁸ who have deviated from the truth. They say that the resurrection has already occurred, and they undermine the faith of some.

¹⁹ Nevertheless, God's firm foundation stands, bearing this seal: "The Lord knows those who are His," and, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord must turn away from iniquity."

²⁰ A large house contains not only vessels of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay. Some indeed are for honorable use, but others are for common use. ²¹ So if anyone cleanses himself of what is unfit, he will be a vessel for honor: sanctified, useful to the Master, and prepared for every good work.

²² Flee from youthful passions and pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace, together with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

²³ But reject foolish and ignorant speculation, for you know that it breeds quarreling. ²⁴ And a servant of the Lord must not be quarrelsome, but must be kind to everyone, able to teach, and forbearing. ²⁵ He must gently reprove those who oppose him, in the hope that God may grant them repentance leading to a knowledge of the truth. ²⁶ Then they will come to their senses and escape the snare of the devil, who has taken them captive to his will.

Sermon Notes

2 Timothy 2:14-26

One takeaway for me:

Sunday 24 March 2024

Bible Study: 2 Timothy 2:14-26

Pray and read 2 Timothy 2:14-26

1. Split into groups of 2-3. Use this passage to create a list of traits for:
 - a. A worker approved by God
 - b. A false teacher

A worker approved by God	A false teacher

2. What stood out to you from these two lists? Are there any groupings or patterns that you notice?
3. There are lots of instructions in this passage about how you speak. Why is the way you speak so important?
4. Verse 19 is a little summary of the gospel. What are the essential elements of the gospel in this verse?

5. The metaphor of bowls/articles seems like a change in gear, but it's not! How does this metaphor fit with the rest of the passage?
6. In verses 25-26, how does God want us to deal with people who might oppose our message? What does God want for them?

Application

It can be easy to assume that this passage only applies to people in "official" teaching roles in a church. However, *ALL* Christians are called to be God's workers (if you don't believe me – check out Ephesians 2:10).

7. How can you be working towards being an approved worker? What is one trait that would like to grow in?
8. Take a minute to reflect on your own: Is there sin in your life that you need to flee from? Who can you confess this sin to, and pray for you in this?
9. What will it look like for you to be bold this week? What is one BOLD practice and one person that you can be intentional with this week?

Devotion 1 – John 13

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Easter Week – *John 13-17 records what Jesus taught his disciples only hours before his arrest and crucifixion. In the lead up to Easter, reflect on how Jesus talked about his death and resurrection, and what it means for us as his disciples.*

Devotion 2 – John 14

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Devotion 3 – John 15

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Devotion 4 – John 16

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Sermon Notes

Good Friday

One takeaway for me:

Friday 29 March 2024

Sermon Notes

Easter Sunday

One takeaway for me:

Sunday 31 March 2024

Devotion 1 – Acts 20:1-12

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Devotion 2 – Acts 20:13-38

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Devotion 3 – Acts 21:1-16

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Devotion 4 – Acts 21:17-36

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

2 Timothy 3:1-17

¹ But understand this: In the last days terrible times will come. ² For people will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, ³ unloving, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, without love of good, ⁴ traitorous, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, ⁵ having a form of godliness but denying its power. Turn away from such as these!

⁶ They are the kind who worm their way into households and captivate vulnerable women who are weighed down with sins and led astray by various passions, ⁷ who are always learning but never able to come to a knowledge of the truth.

⁸ Just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, so also these people oppose the truth. They are depraved in mind and disqualified from the faith. ⁹ But they will not advance much further. For just like Jannes and Jambres, their folly will be plain to everyone.

¹⁰ You, however, have observed my teaching, my conduct, my purpose, my faith, my patience, my love, my perseverance, ¹¹ my persecutions, and the sufferings that came upon me in Antioch, Iconium, and Lystra. What persecutions I endured! Yet the Lord rescued me from all of them. ¹² Indeed, all who desire to live godly lives in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, ¹³ while evil people and imposters go from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived.

¹⁴ But as for you, continue in the things you have learned and firmly believed, since you know from whom you have learned them. ¹⁵ From infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶ All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for instruction, for conviction, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷ so that the servant of God may be complete, fully equipped for every good work.

Sermon Notes

2 Timothy 3:1-17

One takeaway for me:

Sunday 7 April 2024

Bible Study: 2 Timothy 3:1-17

Pray and read 2 Timothy 3:1-17

1. In pairs: create a poster or a list that contrasts the people described in verses 1-9 and the person described in verses 10-17



2. How do you think the description in verses 1-5 compares with our world today?
3. Was there anything in verses 1-5 that surprised you? Or are there any that you see in yourself?
4. Verse 5 finishes with the instruction to “have nothing to do with such people.” Are we literally supposed to shut ourselves away from anyone like this? If not, what does the instruction mean?
5. What should our lives as Christians be like according to verses 10-12?

6. Do you feel like you've faced persecution for your faith? What was that experience like?
7. How can we endure in times of suffering and persecution according to verses 14-17?
8. What fundamental truths do we learn about God's word in verse 15-17?
9. What does it mean that scripture equips us for every good work?

Application

10. This week, what will it look like for you to stand out as a Christian in these last days?
11. How can you immerse yourself in God's breathed-out word this week?
12. What will it look like for you to be bold this week? What is one BOLD practice and one person that you can be intentional with this week?

Devotion 1 – Acts 21:37-22:29

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Devotion 2 – Acts 22:30-23:11

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Devotion 3 – Acts 23:12-25

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Devotion 4 – Acts 24:1-27

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

2 Timothy 3:14-17

¹⁴ But as for you, continue in the things you have learned and firmly believed, since you know from whom you have learned them. ¹⁵ From infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶ All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for instruction, for conviction, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷ so that the servant of God may be complete, fully equipped for every good work.

Sermon Notes

2 Timothy 3:14-17

One takeaway for me:

Sunday 14 April 2024

Bible Study: 2 Timothy 3:14-17

Instead of a study this week we're going to enjoy God's breathed-out word. Here are 3 suggested activities that you can do as a group – you can choose 1, or do all 3 if you like (each activity takes 20-30 minutes)

1. Each person share their favourite verse or passage, and why it is their favourite. Take the time to read the verse/passage slowly to “breathe” it in.

2. Discuss: why might memorising parts of scripture be a good practice? Now memorise 2 Timothy 3:14-17.

3. Meditate on a passage of scripture as a group. (Suggested passages to choose from: Ephesians 1: 1-14, Colossians 1:15-20, 1 Peter 1:3-9, Psalm 19)
 - Everyone close your eyes and focus on slowing down your breathing
 - Have one person read the passage out loud, slowly and clearly.
 - Sit in silence for 2 minutes, meditating on what you heard
 - Read out the passage again, pausing at the end of every sentence.
 - Sit in silence for another 2 minutes
 - Read the passage out again for a third time, at a normal pace.
 - Open your eyes, and each person share one thing that stood out to you from the passage.

Notes:

Devotion 1 – Psalm 119:1-16

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

As we reflect on the beauty of God's word, Psalm 119 is a wonderful psalm to meditate on. So this week, we'll take a break from Acts to meditate on the God's wonderful word.

Devotion 2 – Psalm 119:49-64

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Devotion 3 – Psalm 119:97-112

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Devotion 4 – Psalm 119:161-176

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

2 Timothy 4:1-8

¹ I charge you 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: ² Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and encourage with every form of patient instruction.

³ For the time will come when people will not tolerate sound doctrine, but with itching ears they will gather around themselves teachers to suit their own desires. ⁴ So they will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths.

⁵ But you, be sober in all things, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry. ⁶ For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time of my departure is at hand. ⁷ I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. ⁸ From now on there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but to all who crave His appearing.

Sermon Notes

2 Timothy 4:1-8

One takeaway for me:

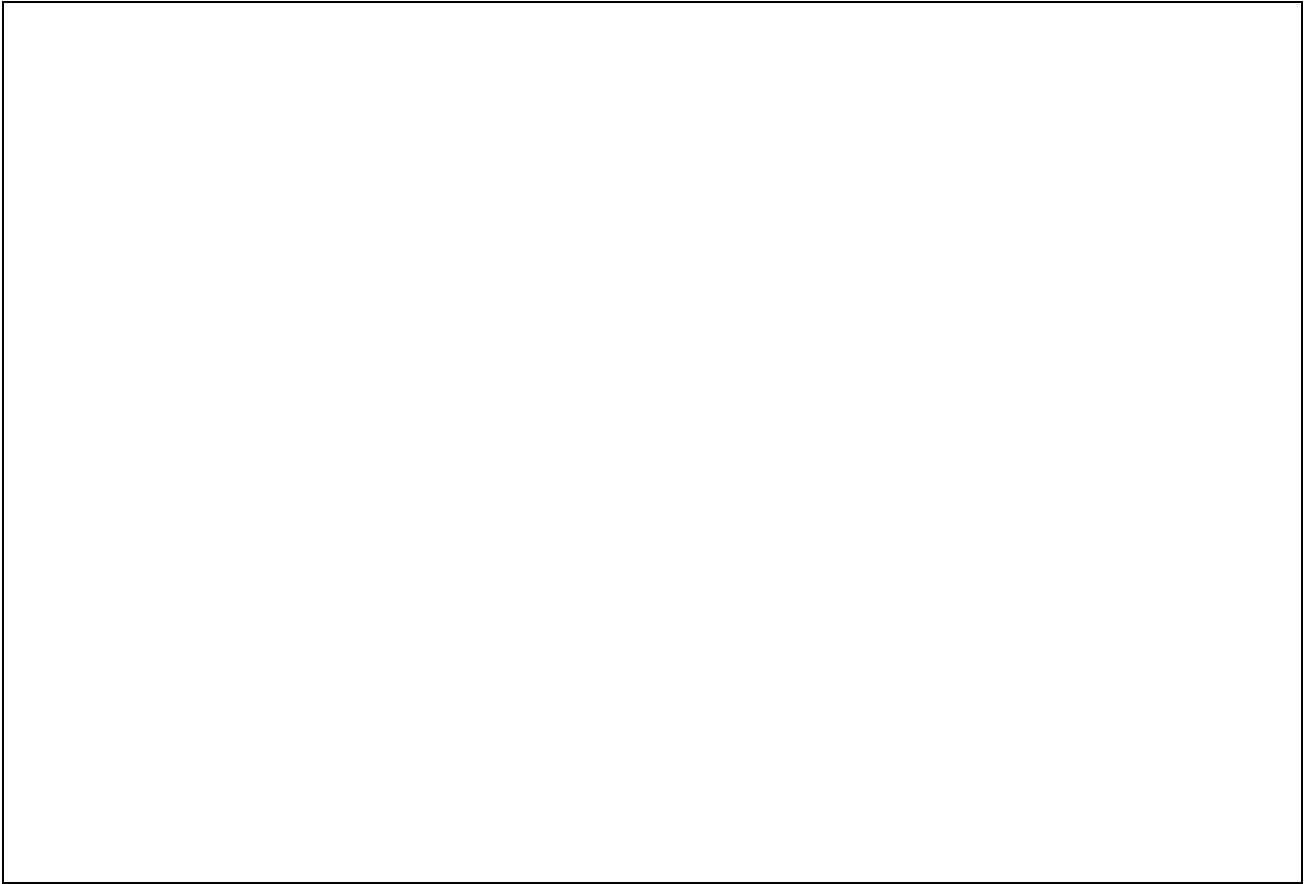
Sunday 21 April 2024

Bible Study: 2 Timothy 4:1-8

Pray and Read 2 Timothy 4:1-8

1. What instructions does Paul give to Timothy in this passage? (vs 2, 5).
What does this show is important?
2. What's the reason that Paul gives in verses 3-4?
3. Can you think of any examples of people turning away from truth?
4. When might we be tempted to turn away from the truth? Are there any parts of the Bible that we are tempted to down-play or ignore?
5. How can we keep holding on to sound doctrine?
6. Re-read Paul's words in verse 6-8. How might these 'last words' have been a comfort and encouragement to Timothy? How are they a comfort and encouragement to us?

(Optional Activity) Re-write this passage from the perspective of an older Christian mentor to you (this can be a real person or an imagined person). What might they say about their 'race'? What instructions and advice might they give to you?



Application:

7. God wants us to be ready to proclaim the message of Jesus in every season! How can you be ready to share the message of Jesus this week?

8. What will it look like for you to be bold this week? What is one BOLD practice and one person that you can be intentional with this week?

Devotion 1 – Acts 25:1-12

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Devotion 2 – Acts 25:13-27

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Devotion 3 – Acts 26:1-18

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Devotion 4 – Acts 26:19-32

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

2 Timothy 4:9-22

⁹ Make every effort to come to me quickly, ¹⁰ because Demas, in his love of this world, has deserted me and gone to Thessalonica. Crescens has gone to Galatia, and Titus to Dalmatia. ¹¹ Only Luke is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, because he is useful to me in the ministry. ¹² Tychicus, however, I have sent to Ephesus. ¹³ When you come, bring the cloak that I left with Carpus at Troas, and my scrolls, especially the parchments.

¹⁴ Alexander the coppersmith did great harm to me. The Lord will repay him according to his deeds. ¹⁵ You too should beware of him, for he has vigorously opposed our message.

¹⁶ At my first defense, no one stood with me, but everyone deserted me. May it not be charged against them. ¹⁷ But the Lord stood by me and strengthened me, so that through me the message would be fully proclaimed, and all the Gentiles would hear it. So I was delivered from the mouth of the lion. ¹⁸ And the Lord will rescue me from every evil action and bring me safely into His heavenly kingdom. To Him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

¹⁹ Greet Prisca and Aquila, as well as the household of Onesiphorus.

²⁰ Erastus has remained at Corinth, and Trophimus I left sick in Miletus.

²¹ Make every effort to come to me before winter.

Eubulus sends you greetings, as do Pudens, Linus, Claudia, and all the brothers.

²² The Lord be with your spirit. Grace be with you all.

Sermon Notes

2 Timothy 4:9-22

One takeaway for me:

Sunday 28 April 2024

Bible Study: 2 Timothy 4:9-22

Pray and Read 2 Timothy 4:9-22

1. This passage is Paul's final recorded words that we have. Recap the situation that Paul was in, and what he might be feeling.
2. What human needs did Paul have? (See vs 9, 13, 21) What did he want from Timothy?
3. There are lots of names in this passage! Group the names into the categories below:

People who deserted or opposed Paul	People that Paul had sent out	People that Paul wants with him

4. What do these relationships reveal about Paul's life and ministry?
5. Reread verse 16-18. What situation was Paul describing? How did he respond?

6. What truths about God did Paul remember in his situation? How can we remind ourselves of these truths?

Looking Back at the Big Picture

1. How is the message of the gospel presented in 2 Timothy? (See 1:9-10, 2:8, 2:19, 3:15, 4:8)
2. What will we face as Christians? (See 1:9, 3:1, 3:12, 4:3)
3. What have we been urged to do? (See 1:8, 1:13-14, 2:1-2, 2:15, 4:1-2)
4. How can we find the strength to do this? (See 1:7, 1:14, 2:1, 2:8, 3:16-17, 4:17)

Devotion 1 – Acts 27:1-26

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Devotion 2 – Acts 27:27-44

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Devotion 3 – Acts 28:1-16

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Devotion 4 – Acts 28:17-31

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

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