



devonport
church of christ

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5 WEEKS OF SERMON-BASED SMALL GROUP STUDIES

PASS IT ON

Sermon-based Small Group studies are designed to be explored with your Small Group after hearing the Sunday sermon.

To access the sermon again, please head to the church website or YouTube channel www.devonportcoc.com.au
Email: reception@devonportcoc.com.au

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Introduction to 2 Timothy and Series Overview

Welcome to *Pass It On*, a five-week journey through Paul's second letter to Timothy.

This study sits within our church's broader disciple-making vision and annual theme. Throughout this series we will explore a simple but profound truth:

Discipleship is not complete until it is multiplied in you.

Jesus never called His followers merely to accumulate knowledge or grow personally. He called us to make disciples who make disciples. The Christian faith has always been passed from one generation to the next through intentional relationships, faithful teaching, and everyday obedience.

Paul's second letter to Timothy is one of the clearest examples of this principle in Scripture. As Paul approaches the end of his life, he writes to his spiritual son Timothy with urgency and affection. He wants Timothy to remain faithful, protect the gospel, endure hardship, teach others, and continue the work after Paul is gone.

In many ways, this letter is Paul's "passing the baton" moment. What Timothy receives, he must then pass on to others. The same challenge stands before us today.

GUARD THE GIFT

Scripture 2 Timothy 1:1-14

Big Idea *God has entrusted us with the gospel and the gifts needed for ministry. We are called to guard, cherish, and steward what He has placed in our hands.*

Icebreakers

1. What is something valuable you have been trusted to look after?
2. How far back does the faith heritage go in your family? Did it start with you, or has it been lived out over generations?

In the Scriptures

Read 2 Timothy 1:1-14

1. What does Paul remind Timothy about his spiritual heritage in verses 3-5? Why is this significant?
2. According to verses 6-8, what fears or challenges might Timothy have been facing, and how does Paul encourage him?

In verses 6-7, what is God's work and what is Timothy's responsibility?

3. What is "the good deposit" Paul refers to in verses 13-14, and how are believers to guard it?

Life Application Questions

1. What spiritual gifts, opportunities or responsibilities has God entrusted to you that you are currently using?
2. Where are you tempted to shrink back because of fear rather than step forward in faith?
3. What practical habits can help you guard and nurture your faith this season? How will you use that habit to fan into flame what God has entrusted to you?

Disciple-Making Challenge

Identify one person who has invested in your faith – perhaps a mentor or older Christian in your family. Bring them to God in thankful prayer.

Ask your mentor if they see anything lying dormant in you that God may yet want to fan into flame.

ENTRUST IT TO OTHERS

Scripture 2 Timothy 2:1-13

Big Idea *The gospel was never meant to stop with us. Healthy disciples intentionally invest in others who can continue the work.*

Icebreakers

1. Who taught you a skill, hobby or trade that you still use today?
2. If you could learn any skill from someone, what would it be?

In the Scriptures

Read 2 Timothy 2:1-13

1. What does Paul mean when he tells Timothy to be "strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus" (v 1)?
2. In verse 2, what four generations of disciple-making can you identify?
3. How do the examples in verses 3-7 help explain faithful discipleship?
 - Soldier
 - Athlete
 - Farmer

Life Application Questions

1. Who is intentionally investing in your spiritual growth in this season?
2. When you envisage a mentor or disciple-maker, what kind of person are they?

Have you unintentionally assumed they look very different to you, or do you see a disciple-maker as an ordinary Christian like you, who is called to share the love of Jesus through their life?

3. Who is God placing on your heart to encourage, mentor or disciple?
4. What fears, obstacles or insecurities keep you from investing in others spiritually?

Disciple-Making Challenge

Pray for one person you could intentionally encourage or meet with over the next month.

STAY FAITHFUL IN THE WORK

Scripture 2 Timothy 2:14-26

Big Idea *Disciple-makers remain faithful and fruitful even when ministry is difficult, opposition arises, or people wander from the truth.*

Icebreakers

1. What is one difficult task you've completed that required endurance?
2. What did perseverance produce in you, when you completed that task?

From the Scriptures

Read 2 Timothy 2:14-26

1. What warnings does Paul give concerning false teaching and careless speech in verses 14-19?
2. In verses 20-21, Paul describes some Christians as vessels of silver or gold (holy, useful, prepared). Looking over verses 14-26, what do we need to be cleansed from to be ready to do the Master's good work?
3. According to verses 24-26, how should the Lord's servant respond to difficult people?

Life Application Questions

1. Who or what helps you remain faithful when serving becomes difficult?
2. Are there any habits, attitudes, or distractions that reduce your effectiveness for God?

Look back over the Scripture passage – does any of Paul’s advice to Timothy about what to avoid ring true for you?

3. How can you show both truth and grace when helping others grow in Christ?

Disciple-Making Challenge

Have one intentional spiritual conversation this week that encourages someone toward Jesus.

BE GROUNDED IN THE WORD

Scripture 2 Timothy 3:10-17

Big Idea *Disciple-makers are shaped by Scripture. God's Word equips us to know Christ, resist deception, and help others follow Him.*

Icebreakers

1. What book (other than the Bible) has influenced your life significantly?
2. Have you ever been asked to share your wisdom or give advice about a situation? What did you base your advice on?

From the Scriptures

Read 2 Timothy 3:1-5 and 10-17

1. What contrast does Paul draw between his life and the lives of false teachers in this chapter?
2. According to verses 14-15, why is Timothy urged to continue in what he has learned?
3. What does Paul teach about the purpose and power of Scripture in verses 16-17?

Life Application Questions

1. What has God recently been teaching you through His Word?
2. How regularly are you allowing Scripture to shape your thinking and decisions?
3. How can you help another person engage more deeply with Scripture?

Share any Bible reading strategies, tips or apps you might use that help you not only read, but apply God's Word to your life.

Disciple-Making Challenge

Share one truth from your Bible reading with another person this week.

FINISH WELL

Scripture 2 Timothy 4:1-8

Big Idea *Faithful disciples live with the finish line in mind. Our goal is not simply to start well but to finish well and leave a legacy of faith.*

Icebreakers

1. Who do you admire for finishing something well?
2. If people described your life in one sentence, what would you hope they would say?

From the Scriptures

Read 2 Timothy 4:1-8

1. What charge does Paul give Timothy in verses 1-5?
2. What do Paul's words in verses 6-8 reveal about his view of life, ministry, and death?
3. Which analogy for following Jesus can you relate to the most at the moment: an offering, a fight or a race (verses 6-7)?

4. What rewards does Paul anticipate, and who are they promised to?

Life Application Questions

1. What would it look like for you to finish your current season of life well?
2. Think of your spheres of influence: Family, employment, friends or social networks, leadership positions... What kind of spiritual legacy are you leaving for others?
3. Looking back over this series, what is one next step God is calling you to take in disciple-making?

Disciple-Making Challenge

Write down the names of 2-3 people you want to intentionally invest in over the next year and begin praying for them daily.

As a Small Group, check in on how your relationships with these people are going over time, and help keep each other accountable to the call to pass on what God has entrusted to us.

PASS IT ON

Series Conclusion

Paul's message to Timothy can be summarized in four movements:

Receive it.

Guard it.

Live it.

Pass it on.

The goal of discipleship is not simply personal growth but spiritual multiplication. The gospel came to us because someone passed it on. The challenge of 2 Timothy is that it must not stop with us.

Discipleship is not complete until it is multiplied in you.



