



Bible Teaching Resources

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A Practical Study of 2 TIMOTHY: 12 Steps to a Fantastic Finish

“The Fine Art of Finishing Well”

PART I – Steps 1-6

2 Timothy 1:1-2:19

Key verse 2:15 — *“Make every effort to present yourself to God, approved, as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, guiding the word of truth along a straight path.”*

STEP NUMBER ONE – INTEGRITY: GETTING IT ALL TOGETHER – 2 TIMOTHY 1:1-7

KEY VERSE 1:5

NOTES

- v. 1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus through the will of God according to the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus.
- v. 2 To Timothy, my beloved child: Grace, mercy, (and) peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.
- v. 3 I am feeling grateful to God, whom I am serving with a pure conscience, the way my forefathers did, as unceasingly I am having you on my mind in my prayers night and day.
- v. 4 Greatly longing to see you, when I recall to mind your tears, in order that I may be filled with joy.
- v. 5 Having been reminded of the genuine faith which is in you, which lived first in your grandmother Lois, and your mother Eunice, and I have been convinced that (it is) in you as well.
- v. 6 And for this reason I am reminding you to be stirring up the flame of the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands.
- v. 7 For God did not give to us a spirit of fearfulness (cowardice) but of power and of love and of self-discipline (good judgment).

QUESTIONS:

1. Read 2 Timothy 1:1-7 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. What three things come from "God the Father" in verse 2? What do these words mean?

3. How does Paul serve the Lord, according to verse 3?

4. Why does Paul remember Timothy's tears when they parted?

5. What kind of faith did Timothy have?

6. Who else in his family had faith like his?

7. What is Timothy asked to do in verse 6?

8. Describe the Spirit that has been given to us in verse 7.

9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: The apostle Paul is in the center of the will of God, proclaiming “the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus” (verse 1).

LESSON #2: Even though the apostle is facing eminent death, it has not affected God’s “promise of life” (see John 11:25, 26).

LESSON #3: Friendship really matters late in the game.

LESSON #4: Is Jesus Christ really your Lord?

LESSON #5: In the process of preparing to meet the Lord, stay focused on the three A’s: (1) your attitude of gratitude; (2) address all the issues in your life; and (3) appeal to the Lord in prayer.

LESSON #6: Lord, help me to maintain a continual contentedness under Your sovereign hand.

LESSON #7: Lord, I want to be honest and transparent in every area of my life so I can bear witness to the fact that I have a “pure conscience” before You (verse 3).

LESSON #8: Lord, the goal of my life in these remaining years is to be a man of integrity and getting it all together in a “genuine faith” (verse 5).

LESSON #9: Lord, help me to light it up, lay it on, and leave a legacy.

LESSON #10: “Lord, take my lips and speak through them; take my mind and think through it; take my heart and set it on fire.”—W. W. H. Aitken.

LESSON #11: Lord, may the remaining years of my life be marked by the presence of Your Spirit with a holy boldness, with “power,” with self-sacrificial “love,” and “self-discipline” (verse 7).

LESSON #12: Do you know what your spiritual gift is?

LESSON #13: Is the Spirit’s “power,” “love,” and “self-discipline” evident in your life? (verse 7).

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

**STEP NUMBER TWO – CONVICTION: HERE I STAND, GOD HELP ME
– 2 TIMOTHY 1:8-12**

KEY VERSE 1:8**NOTES**

v. 8 Therefore, do not be ashamed of the testimony borne by our Lord, nor of me His prisoner; but join with me in suffering for the gospel according to the power of God;

v. 9 The one who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time.

v. 10 But now has been made known through the appearing of our Savior, Christ Jesus, who on the one hand broke the power of death and on the other brought to light, life and immortality through the gospel.

v. 11 For which I was appointed a preacher and an apostle and a teacher.

v. 12 For this reason, I am also suffering these things, But I am not ashamed, for I am knowing whom I have believed and I have been convinced that He is able to guard that which has been entrusted to Him until that day.

QUESTIONS:

1. Read 2 Timothy 1:8-12 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. What two things does Paul ask Timothy not to be ashamed of in verse 8?

3. What else does he ask him to do in verse 8?

4. What two things has God done for us in verse 9?

5. What has Christ done for us in verse 10?

6. Can you describe Paul's work in verse 11?

7. Is Paul ashamed of the fact that he is suffering? If not, why not?

8. What day do you think Paul is referring to in verse 12?

9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: Do you consider yourself to be a person of strong convictions?

LESSON #2: When the culture questions your convictions, can you with Martin Luther say: "Here I stand, God help me"?

LESSON #3: Are you able to boldly proclaim Christ when the opportunity presents itself for witness?

LESSON #4: When is the last time you shared your faith with someone?

LESSON #5: Suffering is a part of the divine curriculum to make us more Christlike.

LESSON #6: When we are suffering, we can trust His sovereignty and His strength to be made perfect in our weakness.

LESSON #7: Lord, help me to maintain a continual contentedness under Your sovereign hand.

LESSON #8: Are you making progress in a life of holiness?

LESSON #9: "If you are to be saved, it must be an act of sovereign grace" (Spurgeon).

LESSON #10: Can you face death with confidence?

LESSON #11: Can you say "I am knowing whom I have believed" (verse 12)?

LESSON #12: Are you investing faithfully in light of the judgment seat of Christ?

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STEP NUMBER THREE – COURAGE: I AM WILLING TO PAY THE PRICE
– 2 TIMOTHY 1:13-18

KEY VERSE 1:13

NOTES

v. 13 Be holding fast the standard of sound words which you heard from me, in faith and love which are in Christ Jesus.
v. 14 Guard the precious deposit which has been entrusted to you through the Holy Spirit who is dwelling in us.
v. 15 You are knowing this, that all who are in Asia turned away from me, among whom are Phygellus and Hermogenes.
v. 16 May the Lord grant mercy to the household of Onesiphorus, because he often refreshed me and was not ashamed of my chain.
v. 17 But when he was in Rome, he eagerly searched for me and found me.
v. 18 May the Lord grant to him to find mercy from the Lord on that day. And what services he rendered in Ephesus you are knowing very well.

QUESTIONS:

1. Read 2 Timothy 1:13-18 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. What is Timothy asked to do in verse 13?

3. Who is going to help Timothy in verse 14?

4. What did the people in Asia do to Paul in verse 15?

5. What did Onesiphorus do in verse 16?

6. What did Onesiphorus do in verse 17?

7. What is Paul's wish for Onesiphorus in verse 18?

8. In what other city did Onesiphorus minister?

9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: Are your convictions strong enough that you will manifest the courage that it takes to stand against a contemporary culture?

LESSON #2: Have you built your Christian profession upon the Solid Rock so that when the storms assail it, you will be seen as holding fast?

LESSON #3: Can you say with the apostle: “according to my earnest expectation and hope, that I shall not be put to shame in anything, but that with all boldness, Christ shall even now, as always, be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death” (Phil. 1:20)?

LESSON #4: Are you guarding the “precious deposit [of the gospel] which has been entrusted to you through the Holy Spirit” (verse 14)?

LESSON #5: Is the Holy Spirit carrying out His function in your life in guiding you into all truth?

LESSON #6: Have you lost your courage to stand for the Lord in the arena of conflict?

LESSON #7: It is good to remember that quitters will never be able to say: “I fought, I finished, and I kept the faith.”

LESSON #8: Is your witness for Christ like that of Phygellus and Hermogenes or that of Onesiphorus?

LESSON #9: Would other believers in the body of Christ characterize you as a compassionate, caring person who is constructively involved in serving them and meeting their needs?

LESSON #10: It is good to remember that little acts of unselfish service do not go unnoticed by the Lord.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STEP NUMBER FOUR – LEGACY: WHAT AM I PASSING ON? – 2 TIMOTHY 2:1-7

KEY VERSE 2:2

NOTES

v. 1 You therefore, my son, be strong by means of the grace which is in Christ Jesus.

v. 2 And the things you heard from me, in the presence of many witnesses, these things entrust to faithful men, who will be qualified to teach others also.

v. 3 Suffer hardships with me as a good soldier of Christ Jesus.

v. 4 No one engaging in military service is allowing himself to become entangled in civilian pursuits in order that he may please the one who enlisted him as a soldier.

v. 5 And if a person is competing in the athletic games, he is not being crowned as the winner unless he competed according to the rules.

v. 6 The hard-working farmer must be the first to receive his share of the crops.

v. 7 Think over what I am saying, for the Lord will give you understanding in all things.

QUESTIONS:

1. Read 2 Timothy 2:1-7 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. How is Timothy to be strengthened, according to verse 1?

3. What is Timothy to do with the message he has heard, according to verse 2?

4. What do “good soldiers of Christ Jesus” do in verse 3?

5. What do we have to be careful of in verse 4?

6. Who are we trying to please in verse 4?

7. How must we compete in verse 5, if we are going to win?

8. What illustration does Paul use in verse 6?

9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: We can get through anything and everything if we are sustained by the strength of His grace.

LESSON #2: We cannot be victorious by ourselves. We must be dependant upon Him.

LESSON #3: His strength is there for us in the time of test, trial, and temptation. We will be victorious if we avail ourselves of this resource.

LESSON #4: What are you doing in your legacy to pass on the great message of the Gospel to the next generation?

LESSON #5: How about making it a goal to become a faithful man or woman “who will be qualified to teach others also”? (verse 2).

LESSON #6: Are you prepared to be obedient to Paul’s command to Timothy in verse 3: “Suffer hardships with me as a good soldier of Christ Jesus”?

LESSON #7: Are you entangled in “civilian pursuits” that keep you from being a soldier who is pleasing the Lord? (verse 4).

LESSON #8: Can you say that you want written on your tombstone: forgiven, faithful, fruitful, finisher?

LESSON #9: Are you sowing seeds on a daily basis in anticipation of a rich harvest?

LESSON #10: Lord, make me a soldier that is not distracted, an athlete who is running by the rules, and a farmer who is enjoying eating the fruit of his labor.

LESSON #11: Hard work, discipline, submission, and goals are part and parcel to the normal Christian life.

LESSON #12: The legacy will come to the soldier with a single focus of pleasing the Lord, to the athlete who is obedient, and to the farmer who prepares and plans.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STEP NUMBER FIVE – PERSEVERANCE: IN SINGLE-MINDED STEADFASTNESS
I WILL STAY THE COURSE – 2 TIMOTHY 2:8-13

KEY VERSE 2:10

NOTES

v. 8 Be keeping in mind Jesus Christ, who has been raised from the dead, descendant of David, according to my gospel.

v. 9 In which sphere of action I am suffering hardship even to the point of imprisonment as a criminal, but the word of God has not been bound.

v. 10 Because of this I am enduring all things for the sake of those who are chosen, in order that they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.

v. 11 Trustworthy is the word: For if we died together with Him, We shall also live together with Him.

v. 12 If we are persevering, we shall also reign with Him; If we shall deny Him, He also will deny us.

v. 13 If we are unfaithful, He is remaining faithful for He is not able to deny Himself.

QUESTIONS:

1. Read 2 Timothy 2:8-13 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. What is Timothy asked to do in verse 8?

3. What is said about the Word of God in verse 9?

4. Why is Paul enduring all the things that he is enduring, according to verse 10?

5. What great truth is stated in verse 11?

6. What happens if we endure, according to verse 12?

7. What happens if we deny Him, according to verse 12?

8. What happens if we are unfaithful, according to verse 13?

9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: Is Jesus Christ at the center of your thoughts and actions?

LESSON #2: Is the focus of your life on Christ?

LESSON #3: Jesus Christ is a living Savior who is alive, available, active, and aware of what is going on in our individual lives.

LESSON #4: Jesus Christ is the “descendant of David,” demonstrating His humanity and His reigning as king (verse 8).

LESSON #5: Is Jesus Christ a living, bright reality to you?

LESSON #6: Do you sense His smile of approval on you?

LESSON #7: Do you have your eyes on the Lord or on your circumstances?

LESSON #8: You can chain the messenger but you cannot chain the message.

LESSON #9: Because God is sovereign, the apostle is “enduring all things” (verse 10).

LESSON #10: Suffering is an integral part of the Father’s program for each of us.

LESSON #11: Salvation is “in Christ Jesus” (verse 10).

LESSON #12: “For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God” (Colossians 3:3).

LESSON #13: “If we are persevering, we shall also reign with Him” (verse 12).

LESSON #14: “If we are unfaithful, He is remaining faithful” (verse 13).

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STEP NUMBER SIX – FOCUSED: THIS ONE THING I DO
– 2 TIMOTHY 2:14-19

KEY VERSE 2:15

NOTES

v. 14 These things be reminding them, charging them in the presence of God not to be disputing about words, which results in not even one useful thing, in addition to ruining the ones who are hearing.

v. 15 Make every effort to present yourself to God, approved, as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, guiding the word of truth along a straight path.

v. 16 But be avoiding profane, empty talk; for they will make further progress in ungodliness.

v. 17 And their word will spread as does cancer. Of whom are Hymenaeus and Philetus,

v. 18 who missed the mark concerning the truth, saying that the resurrection has already taken place, and they are upsetting the faith of some.

v. 19 Nevertheless, the firm foundation of God stands, having this inscription: "The Lord knows those who are His, and let everyone who is naming the name of the Lord abstain from wickedness."

QUESTIONS:

1. Read 2 Timothy 2:14-19 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. What is Timothy asked to do, according to verse 14?

3. What is the result of disputing over words, according to verse 14?

4. What is Timothy asked to do, according to verse 15?

5. What is Timothy asked to do, according to verse 16?

6. Describe what is taking place in verse 18.

7. What happens to God's "foundation," according to verse 19?

8. What are those who are naming His name supposed to do, according to verse 19?

9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: Do not focus on what was but on what will be.

LESSON #2: "Do not focus on what you do not have, focus on what you do have and be grateful for it" (Joan Lunden).

LESSON #3: "The essence of chastity is not the suppression of lust, but the total orientation of one's life towards a goal" (Dietrich Bonhoeffer).

LESSON #4: Lord, keep me from getting distracted by "disputing about words" (verse 14).

LESSON #5: Have you ever made a presentation of yourself to God with no strings attached, total commitment without reservation?

LESSON #6: In order to make a fantastic finish, it is absolutely necessary to be in the "word of truth" on a daily basis (verse 15).

LESSON #7: It is required that a fantastic finisher is well acquainted with the contents of the Bible before he takes his finals.

LESSON #8: Can you say that you are focused on the “word of truth” and this one thing I do? (verse 15).

LESSON #9: False teaching progresses toward greater “ungodliness” and “will spread as does cancer” (verses 16 & 17).

LESSON #10: Do you know for sure that you are His and that you are progressively being made more holy?

LESSON #11: Have you deviated from the “truth”? (verse 18).

LESSON #12: “Lord, grant that whatever I may need to lay aside to fulfill Your will may not be seen as a sacrifice, but rather as the pathway to true achievement.”

ADDITIONAL NOTES:
