



Community Group Study: Entrust to Faithful Men
2 Timothy 2:1-7 | week of May 21

GETTING STARTED

- What is the most valuable item in your house? How do you protect it and keep it safe?

CONTEXT

- Read 2 Timothy 1:13-14. From these verses, what can you say about the purpose of Paul's letter to Timothy? What specific commands does Paul give Timothy?
- Read 2 Timothy 1:15-18. What seems to be happening - good and bad - within the church in Ephesus (where Timothy pastors)?

Read 2 Timothy 2:1-7.

OBSERVATION

- Paul gives Timothy three specific commands in verses 1-3. What are they?
- How do these commands relate to the purpose of the letter (1:13-14)?

- What do the three analogies/illustrations (verses 4-6) have in common? How do they differ?

MEANING

- Why is a simple exhortation to “be strong” (or “buck up”) insufficient? How is an exhortation to *be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus* different?
- Why is it essential to “entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also” the message of the gospel? What would happen if we failed to do this?
- How are Christians like/unlike soldiers? Athletes? Farmers?

APPLICATION

- What “civilian pursuits” keep you from the single-minded focus of the soldier? Are you doing good things that actually get in the way of doing the main things - following Christ and making disciples?
- In what ways do you need to grow in discipline (like the athlete who “competes according to the rules”)?
- In your walk with Christ, how do you need to emulate a hard-working farmer? Do you need a stronger work ethic? More endurance? More patience? What would this hard work look like?

- What can you do to ensure that the message of the gospel is safe-guarded for the next generation? What role can you play in this essential part of the church's gospel mission?

NEXT STEPS

- Memorize or meditate upon Psalm 145:4-7. Write a prayer of praise to the God who is worthy of honor and worship in every generation.