

Finish Well: A Study of 2 Timothy

May 6, 2018 | 2 Timothy 1

Context

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, in keeping with the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus. To Timothy, my dear son: Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord. Vs.

1-2a

- This letter was written by the apostle Paul.
- To Timothy who was Paul's spiritual son in the faith and fellow church planter.
- Timothy's mother and grandmother gave him a spiritual foundation, but his dad was Greek and most likely not a follower.
- Persecution broke out against the church in 64 AD by the Roman Emperor, Nero.
- Paul was in prison in Rome for the second, and last time.
- This is the apostle Paul's last letter before he is killed for being a Christ-follower.

Challenge

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. For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline. Vs.

6-7

- What does it mean to “fan into flame the gift of God” in your life? Grow spiritually.
- Why do we live with a “spirit of timidity (fear)?” We forget about God.
- How does God call us to live? With: “Power,” “Love” and “Self-Discipline.”
- Paul is challenging Timothy to “finish well.”

Charge

So do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord or of me His prisoner. Rather, join with me in suffering for the gospel, by the power of God. He has saved us and called us to a holy life—not because of anything we have done but because of His own purpose and grace. Vs. 8-9a

(This begins Paul's charge to Timothy which carries through the other chapters)

- Paul was not ashamed of our Lord or of the Gospel (Romans 1:16), but are we? How are people today ashamed of the Gospel?
- For Timothy, the Gospel could have cost him his life...
(It had already put him in prison, but he was released - Hebrews 13:23)
- Paul is charging Timothy to live boldly for Christ Jesus.

Commitment

What you heard from me, keep as the pattern of sound teaching, with faith and love in Christ Jesus. Guard the good deposit that was entrusted to you — guard it with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us. Vs.

13-14

- What are you doing with what has been entrusted to you? (entrusted by those who have invested in you and by our Lord who passionately loves you)
- Where are you in the race of life?
 - Have you started? Commit your life to Jesus Christ.

- Are you going strong? Grow in your relationship with God and serving.
- Are you getting distracted? Focus on Jesus.
- Are you preparing to “finish well”? Live every day for Christ!

Taking It Home

God is inviting us on the journey of a lifetime. Committing our life to Christ is the beginning, but God wants us to grow in our faith and to live every day for His glory. Many people start well, but what is important is that we finish well. It is easy to get distracted along the way. Therefore, we must focus on Jesus. Our hope is to be strong and mature in Christ when He calls us home. Let's reach our full potential and be running into the arms of Jesus. Let's finish well.