



2 TIMOTHY 4:1-8

Community Group Study Guide Week of December 1, 2019

We finished our "Tough & Tender" series this week by talking about building a legacy for the glory of God. While Christians do not do anything to earn God's love and experience His grace, we are not to just sit back in life once we have faith in Christ. Christians are called, not to invest themselves in physical things, but to devote themselves to eternal things. While our society teaches us to make use of our gifts and talents for our own good, Scripture calls us to make use of them to bring about the salvation of others, the upbuilding of other saints and the prosperity of the church even when doing so comes at extreme cost.

How do we build a legacy that is glorifying to God? We find instructions in 2 Timothy 4:1-8. First, we know the gospel. We take time daily to mediate on the fact that God, despite knowing all of our sin, wants to be in relationship with us. We should be amazed at how far God went in sending Jesus Christ in order to be in relationship with us. Understanding of double imputation and God's grace, the unmerited favor that we have received from Him, brings joy to our heart and motivates us to want to focus the rest of our lives on seeking to bring others into relationship with Him.

Other ways that we can build a legacy that is glorifying to God are (2) we present gospel truths with humble confidence, (3) we fight the good fight, (4) we run the race, and (5) keep the faith. Not everybody has to go into vocational ministry, but all Christians should actively strive to represent Christ in a most glorifying manner in every area and relationship in their lives. We should always be prepared to give a defense for the hope that is within us and take time to study apologetic approaches to try to equip ourselves to defend the gospel, but, more importantly, we should understand that the way we go about our entire life is the greatest defense for the Christian faith that we can offer to the non-Christians around us. The manner in which we speak to others and interact with them, the battles we selectively choose for the sake of the spreading of the gospel and the perseverance and hope that we exercise in the face of trials, especially death, drastically impact the view towards Christianity of the people around us.

DISCUSSION GOALS

Head

To understand that belief in Jesus as Savior and Lord shall redefine our primary purpose in life.

Heart

To cherish our own salvation and have a sincere concern for the salvation of all other people in our lives.

Hands

To do all to the glory of God with faith that God will use our efforts and reward them in eternity.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Membership:

The next Members Meeting is this Saturday, December 7 at 6PM.

Mini Mo Performance

Our Mini Mo attendees will be performing a rendition of "Go Tell It on the Mountain" this Sunday, Dec. at the 9:30 service.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Read 2 Timothy 4:1-8

1. What does Paul mean when he commands Timothy to “preach the word?” What is the gospel? What is double imputation?
2. When you were a child what did you want to be known for when you grew up? Has belief in the gospel redefined your central purpose in life? Are there areas of your life that you’re trying to prevent God from impacting?
3. If you died today what would the people closest to you in life choose to write as your epitaph? What would your epitaph say if it was based on the past week? What do you want your epitaph to say?
4. What did Pastor Jan mean when he said that Christianity grew “despite the sword?”
5. Do you regularly pour yourself out for the salvation of others? How have people poured themselves out for your salvation? If you didn’t grow up in a Christian home, what kind of interactions with Christians encouraged/are encouraging you to consider Christianity?
6. Pastor Jan discussed the “ABC” method of presenting the gospel. What does A stand for? What does B stand for? What does C stand for?
7. How can discussions about the topic of beauty lead to an effective apologetic or evangelistic conversation?
8. How can discussions about the topic of death lead to effective apologetic or evangelistic conversation?
9. If you came across somebody who feels as if they’ve squandered or wasted their life, how would you give them hope?