

INTRODUCTION

This week we will study some of Paul's last words on this Earth. Sensing that his death was near he summoned Timothy his beloved son in the faith asking him to go to him quickly and sharing with him specific instructions about his commitment to God and his responsibilities as a servant of God.

DEFINITIONS

LGPA: Life Grade Point Average

Faithful Servant: According to Paul in 2 Timothy a faithful servant is one who is willing to suffer hardship with joy (worship), knows the Bible (learns), and works hard (serve).

PRESENT YOURSELF APPROVED 2 TIMOTHY: 1-7; 15 AND MATTHEW 25:23

Have you ever heard someone say "when I get to heaven I want to hear the words well done, good and faithful servant"? Paul in his second letter to Timothy challenged him to be diligent to present himself approved or as a faithful servant not the day of his death, but every day of his life by knowing the word of God. In fact, he went beyond just asking him to know the Word for himself, but also asked Timothy to train faithful men to know the word well enough to teach it to others.

Paul Knew Timothy's Challenges:

- Timothy was pastoring the church the Paul founded in Ephesus.
- As a young Pastor he needed wisdom to lead his people.
- He was a good preacher, but lack experience as a Pastor.
- Because of his faith in Christ and his role in the church he lived in an ever present danger.
- Him and his family were suffering persecution.
- His church was growing extremely fast and needed a great amount of leadership.
- He was going to lose his mentor soon.

Because Paul knew that his death was near, he exhorted Timothy to know how to accurately use, rightly divide, apply, and teach the Word.

THE DIVING TEACHER

Paul's inheritance to Timothy were his teachings and his relationship with the Holy Spirit. The only one who can accurately teach us the Word is the Holy Spirit. One of the outcomes of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit is a greater understanding of the Bible. The closer we are to the Holy Spirit the more He can teach us. Many people who read the Bible before they are saved find it difficult to understand or boring, but once they get saved the Holy Spirit becomes their teacher and the Bible becomes a living book.

IS THERE AN EVALUATION? - 1 PETER 1:5-7

The Bible tells us that our faith is tested through trials and it compares this trials to fire. Just as gold is purified by fire, our faith is tested and proved by fire. Trials make us grow. They make us mature.

The Bible is our map out of each one of our trials and the Holy Spirit is the guide that helps us follow that map. If we let Him the Holy Spirit can teach us to correctly use the Bible as a weapon in the times of war, as a life-jacket in our storms, as our resting place in hectic times, and as the music that changes our mourning into dance.

If we listen to His voice what didn't make sense in the past becomes fresh revelation. He inspires us and gives us the strength we need to apply the Bible we know and empowers us to teach our revelation to others.

A HIGH LGPA

Timothy died as a martyr 30 years after Paul's death. At the time of his death his church was one of the largest of the New Testament. He served the Lord with all his heart leaving behind a great legacy of leaders for the church and even though his writings were not included in our Bible he did write many letters to the saints. He finished every season of his life with high marks. He showed himself approved.

What is your Life GPA so far?

FACTORPOINTS: HE KNOWS – LEARN

WEEK 1 - Review the Gospels and the work of Christ through the lens of a witness giving testimony.

WEEK 2 - Review the eight preaching points delivered by the Apostle Peter as well as the Answers to Common Objections to Speaking in Tongues available at COP.CHURCH and through the COP Mobile App.

WEEKS 3 & 4 - Continue to listen to the ACTivate Teaching Series Audio files available on our COP Mobile App.

WEEK 5 - Review the notes for this teaching as well as previous chapters in Acts and notice how the apostles perceived persecution. Continue to listen to the ACTivate Teaching Series Audio files available on our COP Mobile app.

WEEK 6 - Go over Acts chapters 8 and 9 and read how the obedience of Stephen gave the church the opportunity to grow and expand to new territories. Your obedience can take the gospel to other cities, states and nations.

WEEK 7 - Continue to listen to the ACTivate Teaching Series Audio files available on our COP Mobile app.

WEEK 8 - Continue to review and study this 1st missionary journey and ask for deeper understanding of how the Holy Spirit worked through the apostles.

WEEK 9 – Learn of God's deep desire for all mankind by reviewing the previous teaching from the ACTivate series regarding the Gospel spreading to the Gentiles.

WEEK 10 – Learn of the VARIOUS methods of delivering the timeless message of the Gospel to diverse groups.

WEEK 11 – Learn of the many examples of outcomes in the book of Acts that are a direct result of the intimate relationship with the Lord.

WEEK 12 – Learn of the Godly purpose even in difficult places through the missionary journeys of the apostle Paul (Ac. 14:22b).

WEEK 13 – Learn of how God uses every believer in the church to “*turn from darkness to light*” those who have yet to know Him.

WEEK 14 – Learn of how Paul listened to the Lord through prayer in every circumstance.

WEEK 15 – Learn from reviewing the teachings of the ACTivate series and witness how the Holy Spirit empowered the church to be like Christ.

TODAY'S – Study to allow the Holy Spirit to empower you to be like Christ.

PAULINE EPISTLES

1 THESSALONIANS:

Focus: Reflections on the Thessalonians and revelations concerning the dead in Christ, description of the Day of the Lord and instruction for holy living. The church of Thessalonica is setting a great example for other churches, even though they're being persecuted for their faith. Paul encourages them to "excel still more."

Where and When it was Written: Corinth in the year 51 AD.

2 THESSALONIANS:

Focus: Encouragement in persecution and exhortation to the Church. The affliction just won't let up on the Thessalonian church, therefore Paul coaches them on standing firm until Jesus' return.

Where and When it was Written: Corinth in the year 51 AD.

1 CORINTHIANS

Focus: A letter answering questions concerning division, sexual immorality, marriage, public worship and a collection for Jerusalem. Paul admonished the local church that he founded in Corinth.

Where and When it was Written: Ephesus around the year 56 AD.

2 CORINTHIANS

Focus: Explanation of Paul's ministry, collection for the saints and vindication of Paul's Apostleship. Second Corinthians is a letter of forgiveness and reconciliation.

Where and When it was Written: Macedonia around the year 56 AD.

GALATIANS

Focus: Gospel of grace defended, explained and applied. Paul writes the Galatians an aggressive letter to set them straight on their freedom in Christ.

Where and When it was Written: There are many opinions about where this letter was written. Some believe it was written in Antioch and others in Ephesus or Macedonia. Many scholars place this letter between the years 53 and 56 AD.

ROMANS

Focus: Revelation and application of righteousness. Paul wrote this letter before he had even visited the Roman church.

Where and When it was Written: It was probably written in Corinth around the year 55 AD

COLOSSIANS

Focus: Supremacy of Christ and our submission to Christ. This letter explains to the church at Colossae who they are in Christ.

Where and When it was Written: Rome between 60-61 AD.

EPHESIANS

Focus: Position of the Christian and the practices of the Christian. Paul outlines the doctrines of grace, peace, and salvation, and then instructs the church to walk in a manner worthy of Jesus Christ.

Where and When it was Written: Rome between 60-61 AD.

PHILEMON

Focus: Prayer of thanksgiving, petition for Philemon and promise to Philemon. It's a message to Philemon, a leader in the Colossian church, but it's addressed to the church that met in his house as well (Phlm 2). In a way, it's an open letter to an individual.

Where and When it was Written: Rome between 60-61 AD.

PHILIPPIANS

Focus: Appeal of Paul to have the Mind of Christ, the knowledge of Christ and the peace of Christ. Even though he's suffering in prison, Paul finds joy in Christ. He writes to the church at Philippi urging them to take on a Christ like attitude.

Where and When it was Written: Rome in the year 62 AD.

1 TIMOTHY

Focus: Doctrine, public worship, false teachers, church disciplines and Pastoral motives. This is Paul's guide to godliness and sound teaching for the young pastor Timothy at Ephesus.

Where and When it was Written: Macedonia between 62-63 AD.

TITUS

Focus: Qualified elders, speak sound doctrine and maintain good works. Paul had left Titus at Crete to set up order in the churches there. Now he writes Titus instructions for leading a counter-cultural church.

Where and When it was Written: Corinth around 63 AD.

2 TIMOTHY

Focus: Perseverance in present testing and endurance in future testing. Paul's death is drawing near, and he charges Timothy to carry on his gospel work.

Where and When it was Written: Roman prison around 65 AD.