



"Remember Jesus Christ"

2 Timothy 2:1-13

Sunday | November 10th, 2019 | Pastor Jason Ogden

CONSULT THE SCRIPTURES

2 Timothy 2:1-13

CONSULT THE SCHOLARS

"This charge to guard the gospel through graced strength is followed by a challenge to likewise protect it through careful delegation."¹

"Men do not become battle-ready soldiers by hearing stories of easy victories and exotic lands, but by becoming men of gallantry and sacrifice. Fervent disciples are those who are energized by the challenge and rise to it."²

"We must purposely focus on him and willingly join with his followers in suffering hardship like good soldiers of Jesus Christ. Charles Spurgeon expressed the point with such power:

'Up, I pray you now. By him whose eyes are like a flame of fire, and yet were wet with tears, by him on whose head are many crowns, and who yet wore the crown of thorns, by him who is King of kings and Lord of lords, and yet bowed his head to death for you, resolve that to life's latest breath you will spend and be spent for his praise. The Lord grant that there may be many such in this church—good soldiers of Jesus Christ.'"³

^{1,2,3}Cited by R. Kent Hughes & Bryan Chapell, *Preaching the Word, 1-2 Timothy and Titus, To Guard the Deposit* (Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2012)

DISCUSS

1. Share with the group what part of the sermon impacted you the most?
2. I find it fascinating and challenging that Paul's largest concern at the very end of his life was a single minded devotion to seeing the advancement of the gospel throughout the known world. Discuss as a group why Paul was so focused on this throughout his converted life. What would this same devotion look like for you individually and for your group as a whole?
3. Jason mention in his sermon that obviously obtaining this treasure of the gospel is free, however the implementation of Paul's strategy comes with a cost - namely *"sharing in suffering"*. Why is suffering for the gospel a necessary part this gospel advancement strategy?
4. Paul gives us three examples to help us stay focused on his gospel strategy in the midst of our suffering. He gives the example of the soldier, the athlete and the farmer. Why do you suppose he gave us three examples?
5. Paul says that *"No soldier gets entangled in civilian pursuits, since his aim is to please the one who enlisted him..."* Discuss as a group how we can be tempted to return to the civilian life in the midst of the battle. What does this look like in our lives? How do we keep focused on the battlefield? (Remember Paul says in verse 7 *"Think over what I say, for the Lord will give you understanding in every-thing."* There is a call to meditate on Scripture which is so important if we are to stay focused.)
6. Suffering comes in various forms. Share with the group ways in which you are currently suffering and pray together as a group for each member who is currently facing some kind of suffering.
7. After Paul gives us examples of how we are to stay focused in the midst of our suffering (soldier, athlete, farmer) and a call to meditate on Scripture, he goes on to say, *"Remember Jesus Christ."* There is a call all throughout Scripture to *"Remember."* Think about some of these calls for us to *"Remember"* in the Old Testament and the New Testament. Why do you suppose there is such a strong emphasis on *"Remembering?"*
8. Finally, towards the end of the text Paul gives us a trustworthy saying:
¹¹The saying is trustworthy, for: If we have died with him, we will also live with him;
¹²if we endure, we will also reign with him; if we deny him, he also will deny us;
¹³if we are faithless, he remains faithful — for he cannot deny himself.
9. Have you ever struggled with faithlessness (temporary lapse in faith)? How does this differ denial? What is the hope that we can hold on to when we have moments of faithlessness?
10. What are some immediate applications personally and as a group in light of the text?