



SUNDAY EVENING

AT BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH

Title: Don't Give Up

Passage: 2 Timothy 1:1-14

Speaker: Pastor Dan Preston

Introduction: Some of life's most important words are spoken at the end. When time is short, people tend to talk about what matters most. That is what makes 2 Timothy so powerful. Paul is writing from a Roman prison, knowing his life is nearing its end. Yet his focus is not on his suffering or disappointments. His concern is for Timothy, his son in the faith, and whether he will remain faithful after Paul is gone. Throughout this letter, Paul's message is clear: Don't lose heart. Don't compromise. Don't quit. Finish well. And as we begin tonight, notice that before Paul tells Timothy what to do, he reminds him why he must never give up.

I. Remember Your Heritage (Verses 3-5)

Sometimes the best way to move forward is to remember what God has already done.

Christianity has always been about more than doctrine alone. It is also about relationships. God never intended us to run this race by ourselves.

Every believer can point to someone God used in their life. None of us came to Christ in isolation. God, in His grace, places people in our lives to point us to Himself.

Every generation has the responsibility not merely to receive the truth, but to hand it to the next generation intact.



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II. Rekindle Your Gift (Verses 6-7)

Every believer has been entrusted with abilities, opportunities, and experiences that God intends to use for His glory.

God delights in using ordinary people who simply place their lives in His hands.

The body of Christ functions because every member faithfully uses the gift God has given.

There are moments in every believer's life when obedience feels intimidating. Walking through a door God has opened while wondering if you're capable of what lies ahead.

God has proven that He never asks His children to rely on themselves. He faithfully supplies what He requires.

III. Refuse to Be Ashamed (Verses 8-12)

There are times when following Christ costs us acceptance, popularity, opportunity, or approval.

When your eyes are fixed on your circumstances, courage becomes difficult. But when your eyes are fixed on the gospel, everything changes.

There will be times when we don't understand what God is doing. There will be prayers that seem to go unanswered and circumstances we simply cannot explain. But our peace has never rested in having all the answers.

IV. Retain the Truth (Verses 13-14)

The truth of God's Word never changes because it comes from an unchanging God.



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God's truth should always be spoken with God's heart. Truth without love often wounds people unnecessarily, while love without truth ultimately fails to help them at all.

God calls us to stand firmly upon the truth while speaking it with the love and grace of Jesus Christ.

Conclusion: When discouragement comes, keep going. When the fire burns low, stir up the gift God has given you. When pressure comes, refuse to be ashamed of the gospel. And when the world urges you to change the message, hold firmly to the truth. At the end of his life, Paul could say, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith." He finished well. By the grace of God, may we remain faithful to Christ, stand for the truth, and finish well.



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