God Family Country

GUIDED BIBLE STUDY

The Job of an Evangelist

Speaker: Tony Orihuela

Scripture taken from the New King James Version®. Copyright © 1982 by Thomas Nelson. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Scripture marked NIV is from the Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV® Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.® Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

Highlighted Scripture

- **2 Timothy 4:1-5 (NKJV, verse 5)**

  "But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry."

  Paul charges Timothy before God and Christ to keep proclaiming the word even when people prefer teaching that suits their desires. Correction and encouragement belong with patience and careful instruction. This charge addresses Timothy's ministry; Tony applies its call to faithfulness to the opportunities we have to share the good news of Jesus. Faithful teaching includes examining our own understanding and caring about the people who hear.

- **2 Peter 3:8 (NIV, excerpt)**

  "With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day."

  Peter answers doubts about Christ's return. God's patience is not forgetfulness, and His faithfulness cannot be measured by our deadlines. Tony applies this reminder to patient ministry. We can keep sharing faithfully without treating a delayed response as hopeless or claiming to know when another person will believe. This comparison is not a formula for predicting dates.

Discussion Questions

- When God's word challenges something you enjoy or believe, how do you distinguish a difficult truth from a teacher's mistaken interpretation?
- Paul places patience alongside correction. What would change in a difficult conversation if you took both seriously?
- Tony contrasts redemption with repentance. Where might you welcome God's forgiveness while resisting His call to change?
- What can you do faithfully when someone does not respond as you hoped, and what lies beyond your control?
- Tony says he needed this word too. What helps you remain teachable while teaching or encouraging others?

Reflection Challenge

Choose one conversation where you have been silent from fear or impatient for results. Pray for readiness and humility, then offer one clear act of gospel encouragement. Aim to serve the person faithfully, without pressuring them to give you the response you want.

Ask yourself:

- Am I hoping to serve this person or win an argument?
- What part of the passage first needs to shape my own attitudes?
- Can I remain patient without watering down what Scripture teaches?

Try this:

- Read 2 Timothy 4:1-5 slowly. Write down both the message Timothy is to share and the manner in which he is to share it.
- Prepare a brief explanation of the good news of Jesus in plain words. Check it against Scripture, and ask a trusted Christian for help where you are unsure.
- Ask someone whether they would welcome a conversation about faith. Listen to their questions before answering, and respect their response.
- Pray for that person this week. Offer practical kindness and a thoughtful follow-up when welcome, while leaving the outcome with God.

Remember

- Keep sharing the good news of Jesus faithfully.
- Truth and patience belong together.
- Let Scripture challenge you as well as those you teach.
- You can invite a response; you cannot produce faith by pressure.
- Trust God's patience without claiming to know another person's future.

Prayer

Heavenly Father,

Thank You for the good news of Jesus Christ. Give me courage to speak truth and patience to listen carefully. Keep me from seeking only words I already agree with, and from mistaking my opinions for Your word. Teach me to receive correction, encourage with compassion, and serve without trying to control another person's response. Help me remain faithful when results are unseen.

In Jesus' name, Amen.