



Not Ashamed: When Life Challenges Our Faith

Scott Merriner – February 5, 2023
Small Group Discussion Questions

Getting Started

Take some time to catch up and connect as a group. Pray before discussion.
Expect God to move through your time together!

Pacing Your Group

Move quickly through “observation” leaving enough time for “reflection”, “discussion”, and “surrender.”

Scripture Reading

Re-read the scripture passages as needed when you discuss the questions.

Observation: *What does this scripture passage say?*

Take some time to look up and read: 2 Timothy 4

1. What threats and troubles does Paul describe in this passage?
2. What attitudes and actions does Paul recommend to counter these troubles either through specific challenges or through modeling what to do?
3. Paul mentions people by name in this passage. What are the details and dynamics of these relationships (v9-15)?

Reflection and Discussion: *What are some first thoughts flowing from the scriptures?*

How do the scriptures connect to everyday life.

4. Who or what is your ministry? Is this season of your life an “in season” or an “out season”? Is boldness for Jesus in this season coming naturally? Or is it a struggle?
5. In this part of Paul’s writing, Paul mentions Demas, a friend who has walked away from faith. One of the things that can rock our faith is when Christians we respect fail Christ. What low points have you faced when:
 - Fellow Christians fail Christ
 - Christians we love fail us
 - Being poured out “drains us”
6. What does it mean for you to “stand with Jesus so you can stand for Him” in this season?

...continued on the next page

7. Remember these lessons for living “not ashamed” of the gospel. What is your strongest “take-away” from this series?

2ND TIMOTHY: LESSONS FOR LIVING “NOT ASHAMED” OF THE GOSPEL

Challenge	Solution
When we receive ridicule for our faith...	GUARD THE GOOD DEPOSIT <i>1:14 By the Holy Spirit who dwells within us, guard the good deposit entrusted to you.</i>
When being bold with the gospel costs us...	ENDURE EVERYTHING <i>2:10 Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.</i>
When we face opponents ...	RESPOND WITH CHRIST’S GENTLE STRENGTH <i>2:15 Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth.</i>
When we encounter false teaching ...	TRAIN IN GOD’S WORD <i>3:16 All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.</i>
When life’s low points weaken our faith...	STAND WITH JESUS IN EVERY SEASON <i>4:17 But the Lord stood by me and strengthened me, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it.</i>

Surrender: Responding to God’s voice.

8. What is one thing God is saying to you through this study and discussion?

**** Take some time to pray for one another in response to what has been discussed today ****

We’re here!
 We would love to hear about how things are going in your life group!
 Reach out any time with questions, ideas, thoughts, or concerns.
 Contact Care & Community Pastor, Michael Warren, (907) 646-4830, communitylife@changeportalaska.com
 A primary resource in compiling these questions has been the *NIV Life Application Study Bible* (Zondervan, 1984)