



The following is the summary of the Sunday sermon that is sent to the body at Steadfast in an email called "The Weekly"

2 Timothy 4:1-8

Gazing Upon Glory

Paul's death was imminent! He knew his time on earth was coming to an end (2 Tim. 4:6). His words to Timothy (2 Tim. 4:1-8) are filled with urgency and strength. In these eight verses, Paul fixes our eyes on what is to come and the impact that should have on how we live. If you were not able to be there on Sunday, I want to encourage you to get online and listen to the message. *If we as Christians keep our eyes on where we are going we will proclaim God's Word.* Not only is this an urgent message because of Paul's impending execution, but even more so because Christ is the judge. It's His opinion that matters. One day we will stand before Him and our works will be judged. His appearing and His kingdom should matter to us. In light of this, Timothy was to faithfully proclaim God's Word. Proclaiming the Word (reproving, rebuking, exhorting with great patience and instruction) was to be of primary importance to Timothy. *If we as Christians keep our eyes on where we are going, we will fulfill our ministry.* We live in a day where many people prefer teaching and preaching that tells them what they want to hear. There are many that prefer teaching and preaching that avoids the word sin. Many would rather hear motivational speeches and self-help methods than messages full of sound doctrine and application. Regardless of the response of others, Timothy was to be sober in all things (have sound mind), endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist and fulfill the ministry God had given Him. After all, it's only God's opinion that really matters and one day he would stand before Him. If you have been saved by grace through faith in Christ alone, you are a child of God and He has a ministry for you to fulfill here on this earth. *If we as Christians keep our eyes on where we are going, we will live with hope.* Paul saw his life as a living sacrifice for Jesus Christ. He saw his impending death as the completion of that sacrifice. He had "fought the good fight, finished the course, and kept the

faith." Heaven awaited and so did his rewards (8). As you seek to apply this passage to your life, ask yourself these questions:

- **Do I faithfully proclaim God's Word?** Regardless of your profession, getting to know God's Word and proclaiming His Word should be a priority in our lives.
- **Am I living purposefully fulfilling the ministry God has for me?** Is fulfilling your ministry a priority in your life?
- **Does where I am going impact the hope and intentionality I live with today?** We live in a world that is caught up in the immediate. Keeping our eyes on where we are going helps us live with eternal purposes in mind while on this earth.

Pastor Matt