

2 Timothy 3:10-17 Discussion Guide

Pray

Apart from God, we can do nothing. Pray for the Holy Spirit to guide your discussion. Throughout your time together, continue asking God for help.

Read Scripture

Read 2 Timothy 3 together with special focus on 3:10-17.

Bible Study: The HEAR Method

The bulk of your time will be spent discussing God's Word together. HEAR is an inductive Bible study method that looks closely at what the Bible says to discover what it means so that we can faithfully apply it to our lives.

HEAR stands for:

- **Highlight:** read and observe everything in the passage carefully.
- **Examine:** based on your observations, discover what the passage means in its context.
- **Apply:** determine how the meaning of the passage applies to your life.
- **Respond in prayer:** pray God's Word back to Him.

Remember:

- Walk through the Bible study together using the HEAR method and talk about what stuck out most to you in the passage.
- Make sure you move discussion to the application section of your study.
- Affections, beliefs, and practices: Make sure to apply the passage to all your life.

Pray

- Take time to pray for one another and ask for His grace to apply His Word to our daily lives.

2 Timothy 3:10-17 (ESV)

"You, however, have followed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, ¹¹my persecutions and sufferings that happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, and at Lystra—which persecutions I endured; yet from them all the Lord rescued me. ¹²Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, ¹³while evil people and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived. ¹⁴But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it ¹⁵and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work."

Open: When you were a child, what superhero did you want to be like? Why?

Study:

- 1) Timothy has worked with Paul and seen the way in which he goes about his gospel ministry. Contrast Paul with the people who have just been described earlier in chapter 3 (3:10-11). Why isn't it arrogant for Paul to compare himself with those who have settled for an "appearance of godliness"?
- 2) Why does our "way of life" (or how we live) matter to God if we are saved by grace?

Paul references the suffering he has endured and shares about 3 different instances. Look up these verses for background on what he is talking about: Antioch (Acts 13:42-52), Iconium (Acts 14:1-7) and Lystra (14:8-20).

- 3) Considering the three major sufferings Paul endured, what insight into Paul do you gain?
- 4) As Paul looks back on his suffering (3:11) what is his perspective and attitude? What enabled him to have this perspective? How can suffering allow true godliness to shine through?
- 5) What sticks out about what Paul tells Timothy in vs. 14-15?
- 6) Why is it significant that “all Scripture is God-breathed”?
- 7) According to vs. 16-17, what are the various functions of Scripture? How would you explain each term practically? What are each of these functions so important?

Apply:

- 8) Where are you tempted to just fit in with the culture to shield you from persecution? Why?
- 9) Why do you read the Bible? Why do you think God has given us His Word?
- 10) What is the biggest hindrance for you personally in spending consistent, quality time reading Scripture? What do these hindrances say about your motivations and beliefs about God’s Word?
- 11) How has God’s Word enabled you to persevere amid trial? Why was it so life giving to you?
- 12) In what ways do you want to grow in being more rooted and consistent in God’s Word?

PRAY:

- Take time thank God for the gospel that rescues us from wasting our lives.
- Ask God for grace to be an example to others of faithful Gospel living.
- Ask God for fresh love for His Word and the gospel.
- Take time to pray for those who have been an example to you in faithful gospel living.

NOTE: a variety of resources have been used for this discussion guide including: *ESV 12-Week Study Guide*, *The GoodBook 2 Timothy Study Guide* by Mark Mulryne, *10 Days in 2 Timothy Workbook* by Campus Outreach Birmingham, and *2 Timothy Leader Guide* written by Miles O’Neill and Erin Smith.