

## Sermon study 2 Timothy 2:1-13 “A Dying Man to Dying Men”

*Use this outline as a guide. You can talk about it a different way if you like but whatever you do make sure the depth of this study is depth of APPLICATION. Do not make it your goal to get sidetracked determining the meaning. The goal is to move forward from the message into actual real life and specific application. Be creative and follow up about application. Imagine a church where the people actually applied what they learned. Wow.*

### **The problem this sermon addresses**

Do you ever find yourself lacking the time and resources necessary to do the task God has laid before you? Discuss.

Do you ever find that you lack drive and motivation when things get hard? Discuss.

Do you ever feel like your service to God was worthless because you are in some sort of defeat? Discuss.

Do you ever find that you lose hope when your belief is weak?

Here is the problem this sermon addresses:

We use our own strength when we make disciples.

We have no motivation when things get difficult.

We have no sense of victory when we suffer defeat.

We have no hope when our faith is weak.

### **CPT:**

Remember Jesus Christ! The Word of God is not bound!

### **Main Idea:**

**Make disciples, even when it is hard, even when you are defeated, even when you are weak in faith.**

### **I. Make Disciples (2 Timothy 2:1-2)**

A. Paul urges Timothy to make disciples and pass on what he has learned IN THE STRENGTH OF THE LORD. The implication here is that God will strengthen you as you strengthen others. (2 Timothy 2:1)

1. Read 2 Corinthians 12:7-10. What do you NEED to make disciples? Do you have this? Based on this passage what might stop us from relying on this pivotal thing?
2. Read John 15:4-5. What are some specific ways we might stay plugged-in to the vine?
3. Read 1 Kings 17:1-6. What lesson was God teaching Elijah when he was being fed by the ravens and the brook?
  - a) How did this lesson serve him when he went to meet the widow?
    - (1) Read Mark 6:30-44. How does this passage illustrate everything we have been talking about?
4. Read 2 Timothy 1:12-14. You have been entrusted with this sermon. How can you pass it on?

### **II. Even When It is Hard (2 Timothy 3-7)**

A. Paul exhorts Timothy to make disciples even when it is hard. The implication here is that God will give you motivation to continue even when it gets hard. (2 Timothy 2:7)

1. Read Proverbs 10:4-5. How do Paul's analogies of soldier, athlete and farmer illustrate the proper expectation of the Christian life?
2. Is this your expectation of the Christian life?
3. Based on this idea why is consumer Christianity such an offensive paradigm?
4. How hard are you willing to work to make disciples? Be honest. It is often noted that what we love is demonstrated in how we spend out time and our treasure. What do you need to change in your schedule and in you pocket book to reflect your priority to invest your life in others?

### **III. Even When You Are Defeated (2 Timothy 2:8-9)**

- A. Paul continues with his exhortation telling Timothy to make disciples even when it is hard even when you are defeated. The implication here is that God will give you victory even when you are defeated. (2 Timothy 2:9)
1. Read Exodus 32:1-6. Why is it so necessary to "REMEMBER Jesus Christ?"
  2. Read 1 Corinthians 11:23-26. Tying it all together, why is it so necessary to celebrate the Lord's supper regularly?
  3. If His Word is not bound, what does that mean we need to be actually passing on? How can we do this?

### **IV. Even When You Are Weak in Faith (2 Timothy 2:10-13)**

- A. Paul finishes this section saying: make disciples even when it is hard, even when you are defeated even when you are weak in faith. The implication here is that God will remain faithful in His work and in you His worker even when you are weak in faith.
1. Read Romans 8:1 and 8:31-39. As I have stated before - our perseverance is evidence of His preservation. To deny Him is to never be His-(1John 2:19 They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us. But they went out, that it might become plain that they all are not of us.) To be faithless is to be lacking in faith in a given moment. Remember it is not the amount of our faith that saves and empowers us but the OBJECT of our faith - Christ. We cannot fail and we cannot slip between His finger - we are His fingers!!!
  2. Who invested in your life to pass on the things of faith?
  3. Who invested in theirs?
  4. Who invested in theirs?
  5. Do you know this person?
  6. Think of all the people you have impacted that you have never met. God is faithful with every investment you give to His work.

Implications:

God will strengthen you as you strengthen other. He will give you motivation even when it is hard. He will give you victory even in your defeat and He will remain faithful even when you do not.

To put it another way-

When you make disciples, remember His grace.

When you suffer for it, remember His reward.

When you experience defeat, remember His victory.

And when you sometimes quit, remember that He doesn't

The Puritan pastor Richard Baxter once remarked, "I preach as never sure to preach again, and as a dying man to dying men."

How does can this quote apply to your life? What can you change tonight to reflect this?

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