

STUDYING THE BOOK OF 2 TIMOTHY
IN SMALL GROUP DISCUSSIONS

Lesson 2 - Encouragement to Be Faithful (continued) - 2 Timothy 2:1-13

Read the following verses in the New International Version or a translation of your choice. Then discuss the questions that follow. Questions should be studied by each individual before your discussion group meets.

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2TI 2:1 You then, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. [2] And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others. [3] Endure hardship with us like a good soldier of Christ Jesus. [4] No one serving as a soldier gets involved in civilian affairs-- he wants to please his commanding officer. [5] Similarly, if anyone competes as an athlete, he does not receive the victor's crown unless he competes according to the rules. [6] The hardworking farmer should be the first to receive a share of the crops. [7] Reflect on what I am saying, for the Lord will give you insight into all this.

2TI 2:8 Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, descended from David. This is my gospel, [9] for which I am suffering even to the point of being chained like a criminal. But God's word is not chained. [10] Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they too may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory.

2TI 2:11 Here is a trustworthy saying:

If we died with him,
we will also live with him;

2TI 2:12 if we endure,
we will also reign with him.
If we disown him,
he will also disown us;

2TI 2:13 if we are faithless,
he will remain faithful,
for he cannot disown himself.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Lesson 2 - Encouragement to Be Faithful (continued) - 2 Timothy 2:1-13

17. What did Paul encourage Timothy to do with what he had been taught? (2:2)
18. How was Timothy to endure hardship? (2:3)
19. How does a soldier limit himself? Why? (2:4)

20. What must an athlete do in order to win? (2:5)
21. What should a hardworking farmer receive? Why? (2:6)
22. What was Paul's gospel? (2:8)
23. Why was Paul willing to endure anything? (2:10)
24. How did Paul encourage Timothy? (2:11-13)
25. What "trustworthy saying" did Paul leave with Timothy to encourage him? (2:11-13)

Lesson 3 - A Workman Approved by God - 2 Timothy 2:14-26

2TI 2:14 Keep reminding them of these things. Warn them before God against quarreling about words; it is of no value, and only ruins those who listen. [15] Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth. [16] Avoid godless chatter, because those who indulge in it will become more and more ungodly. [17] Their teaching will spread like gangrene. Among them are Hymenaeus and Philetus, [18] who have wandered away from the truth. They say that the resurrection has already taken place, and they destroy the faith of some. [19] Nevertheless, God's solid foundation stands firm, sealed with this inscription: "The Lord knows those who are his," and, "Everyone who confesses the name of the Lord must turn away from wickedness."

2TI 2:20 In a large house there are articles not only of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay; some are for noble purposes and some for ignoble. [21] If a man cleanses himself from the latter, he will be an instrument for noble purposes, made holy, useful to the Master and prepared to do any good work.

2TI 2:22 Flee the evil desires of youth, and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart. [23] Don't have anything to do with foolish and stupid arguments, because you know they produce quarrels. [24] And the Lord's servant must not quarrel; instead, he must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful. [25] Those who oppose him he must gently instruct, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the truth, [26] and that they will come to their senses and escape from the trap of the devil, who has taken them captive to do his will.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Lesson 3 - A Workman Approved by God - 2 Timothy 2:14-26

26. What results from quarreling about words? (2:14)

27. How did Paul encourage Timothy to present himself before God? (2:15)
28. Why should we avoid godless chatter? (2:16)
29. What had Hymenaeus and Philetus done? (2:17-18)
30. What must everyone who confesses the name of the Lord do? (2:19)
31. What sort of articles are found in a large house? (2:20)
32. How could someone become an instrument used for noble purposes? (2:21)
33. What was Timothy encouraged to flee? (2:22)
34. What was Timothy encouraged to pursue? (2:22)
35. What produces quarrels? (2:23)
36. What must the Lord's servant do and avoid? (2:24)
37. How should we deal with those who oppose the Lord's servants? Why? (2:25)
38. What did Paul hope would happen to those who opposed the Lord's servant? (2:25-26)