

2 Timothy

Lesson 8: 2 Timothy 2

Burnout and sellout are two common realities of pastors in ministry. The pressures of ministry can be overwhelming for a pastor and he can become easily discouraged and burnout. There are also the pressures of the culture and false teachers that are telling pastors to stray from God's Word and give in to the world. Timothy was experiencing difficulties in his ministry and needed some encouragement from his spiritual father. Christians also need encouragement in their daily walk with Christ to stay faithful to God's Word. Let's dive in and see what encouragement we can gain from Paul's letter to Timothy.

➤ **Read 2 Timothy 2:1–7**

1. In verse 1, how does Paul refer to Timothy and what command does he give him?
2. In verse 2, Paul talks about passing on the truth to others. List the people involved in passing down the truth.
3. In verses 3–6, what three analogies does Paul use to describe a strong spiritual life?

Application: What are some ways others have given you spiritual encouragement when you were discouraged?

4. In verse 7, what is Paul urging Timothy to do?

➤ **Read 2 Timothy 2:8–13**

5. In light of the context, why would Paul tell Timothy to “remember Jesus Christ” in verse 8?

6. In verse 9, why would Paul’s testimony be an encouragement to Timothy?

Application: What are some ways people try to “imprison the Word of God” today? How does a proper understanding of the power of God’s Word motivate you when opposition arises?

7. In verse 10, why does Paul use the doctrine of election to encourage Timothy?

8. In verses 11–13, Paul quotes what appears to be a familiar poem or hymn. Read the following statements and fill in the rest.

- If we died with Him, _____.
- If we endure, _____.
- If we deny Him, _____.
- If we are faithless, _____.

➤ **Read 2 Timothy 2:14–19**

9. In verses 14, Paul turns away from endurance and encouragement to the struggle against false teachers. What does Paul want Timothy to remind and teach the Ephesian believers?

10. In verse 15, what is the job of every faithful pastor?

11. In verse 16, what is Timothy commanded to avoid? Why?

Application: Words matter. What are things you have heard in the church today that are unbiblical? How can you practice discernment in the things you say?

12. Why would the two “seals” of verse 19 be a comfort to Timothy? What does the second “seal” reveal about doctrine and duty?

Application: As you continue to grow in your knowledge of God’s Word, how has your knowledge of God’s Word affected your behavior?

➤ **Read 2 Timothy 2:20–26**

13. In verses 20–21, what analogy does Paul use to talk about being a useful tool for God?

Application: What things do you need to purge from your life in order to be useful to God?

14. In verse 22, what is Timothy (and all believers) called to pursue?

15. In verse 23, what is Timothy called to reject?

16. In verse 24–25, what are the five qualifications Paul gives for the pastor?

17. In verse 25, how is an unbeliever able to repent? What is the result of true repentance?

18. In verse 26, how does Paul describe an unbeliever?

Application: Think about your life when you were “held captive” by Satan. In what ways has your life changed now that God has rescued you?

Application: Read 1 Peter 3:15. Can winning an argument also win souls? What role can apologetics—defending the truth of the Christian faith—play in evangelism? What must be the goal?

Application: What verse(s) impacted you the most in this lesson? Why?