

Summit Woods Baptist Church
Sermon Study Equipping Class

2 Timothy 4:1-3

Remember to begin your study early in the week so that you have time to really think (and keep thinking) about the passage without being rushed.

❖ Day 1

Read 2 Timothy 4:1-3

For these lessons, the sermon text is provided in a format that visually helps display the structure of the paragraph or section of text. The main verbs are underlined. Commands are double-underlined. Generally, the main indicative clauses remain to the left, and the other clauses are either directly underneath when they have equal priority to what comes before, or are tabbed to the right when the clause supports, develops, or draws a conclusion from a neighboring clause.

1 I solemnly exhort you

in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus,
who is to judge the living and the dead,
and by His appearing and His kingdom:

2 preach the word;

be ready in season *and* out of season;

correct,

rebuke,

and exhort,

with great patience and instruction.

3 For *the* time will come when they will not tolerate sound doctrine;

but *wanting* to have their ears tickled,

they will accumulate for themselves teachers

in accordance with their own desires,

1. For context, read 2 Timothy chapter 3. How would you summarize Paul's argument in that chapter?

2. How does our passage this week tie into the themes of the previous chapter?

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3. Whom does Paul “solemnly exhort” in verse 1?
4. What do the words “solemnly exhort” tell us about the tone of this passage?
5. In whose presence is Timothy conducting his preaching ministry?
6. What three aspects of Christ does Paul emphasize in the second half of verse 1?

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7. Why do you think Paul reminds Timothy about Christ returning to “judge the living and the dead?” How should that reality shape Timothy’s ministry?

8. What is Paul referring to when he speaks of “his appearing?” How should that reality shape Timothy’s ministry?

9. How would a focus on “his kingdom” shape Timothy’s ministry? How do those three realities affect the ways you conduct your own life and ministry? What kinds of things change when you’re living in light of these truths?

❖ Day 2

Read 2 Timothy 4:1-3 again.

10. What is Paul’s first exhortation to Timothy? What does that mean?

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11. Read Acts 20:27. What is the “whole purpose of God” that Paul preached? Having read this, what does Paul mean by “the word” in 2 Timothy 4:2?
12. Why does Paul deem it necessary to exhort Timothy to “preach the word?” How might Timothy have been tempted to compromise in his duty to preach the “whole purpose of God?”
13. In what ways have you been tempted to compromise in proclaiming the full Gospel of Christ?
14. What do we need to “be ready” for? What do the phrases “in season” and “out of season” mean?

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15. What are some inappropriate responses to when “out of season”, “inconvenient”, or “inopportune” Gospel proclamation opportunities come up?
16. How should we prepare ourselves so that we’re ready for any opportunity to preach the Gospel?
17. As Timothy preaches the word, what 3 things is he to do, according to the second half of verse 2?
18. In what ways is Timothy to correct, rebuke, and exhort? What sort of disposition is to characterize the way he speaks?

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19. Considering verse 2, describe some of the features of faithful and Biblical Gospel proclamation.

❖ Day 3

Read 2 Timothy 4:1-3 again.

20. “The time is coming” indicates that these events of this verse will happen in the future. When does Paul think this time will come? Why do you think so?

21. According to verse 3, what is it that “people will not endure?”

22. Why does the passage say these people turn from sound teaching? What does that phrase mean?

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23. What will these people do, rather than continue to sit under faithful teaching?

24. What does it mean that these teachers are “in accordance with their own desires?”

25. How do you see this happening in modern Christianity today? List some ways you’ve seen this happen.

26. What gifts has God given us to help keep us from pursuing this desire to have our “ears tickled?”

In preparation for Sunday, pray that God would keep you from wandering away from sound teaching. Pray that He would open your eyes and heart to delight in his word and receiving instruction from it. Pray that you might listen to Scripture being preached with ears to hear and free from distraction.