

Sermon Summary 08/16/2015

2Timothy “Unchanging Gospel Ministry in Challenging Times” by Drew Hunter

In Short: In spite of suffering and challenges, follow Paul’s example and continue the fight of faith.

Sunday’s Outline

- I. Introduction – the church in Ephesus should be praying that Timothy faithfully follow Paul’s charge to:
 - A. Follow the patterns
 1. Paul has faithfully taught Timothy over the years (1:13)
 2. Timothy must now continue in what he has learned and believed (3:14) after Paul is gone
 - B. Guard the gospel
 1. There will be false teachers
 2. The gospel must never be put on the shelf to appease itching ears (4:3)
 - C. Preach the Word
 - D. Share in suffering – don’t avoid it, but endure and share in it
 - E. Remember Jesus

Quotations

“One generation of Mennonites *believed* the gospel and held as well that there were certain social, economic, and political entailments. The next generation *assumed* the gospel, but identified with the entailments. The following generation *denied* the gospel: the “entailments” became everything.”

-Don Carson

Help for Understanding & Application

- 1) Who is the audience of this letter? How should the church read and understand this letter in light of this? In other words, when this letter was read aloud to the church in Ephesus, what would have been their takeaways?
- 2) How would you describe the overarching tone of this letter? What specific verses back up your answer?
- 3) As we face suffering and trials in this world, what is one concrete way we can support one another in the face of difficulties?
- 4) As you have had others come alongside you while you are hurting, what are some things others have said or done that have been especially helpful and meaningful to you? What are some things we should try to avoid doing or saying when we are ministering to those who are suffering?
- 5) How are you suffering right now?
- 6) How are you ministering to someone who is suffering right now?
- 7) How has the preaching of the Word ministered to you as you face your current struggles?