



Be Bound to the Gospel!

2 Timothy 2:1-13

July 18, 2021

Pastor Casey Ehlers

Introduction

In our passage today, Paul concludes his Gospel-driven exhortation of Pastor Timothy.

The Text: 2 Timothy 2:1-13

You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus, ² and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also. ³ Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. ⁴ No soldier gets entangled in civilian pursuits, since his aim is to please the one who enlisted him. ⁵ An athlete is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules. ⁶ It is the hard-working farmer who ought to have the first share of the crops. ⁷ Think over what I say, for the Lord will give you understanding in everything.

⁸ Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, the offspring of David, as preached in my gospel, ⁹ for which I am suffering, bound with chains as a criminal. But the word of God is not bound! ¹⁰ Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory. ¹¹ The saying is trustworthy, for:

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

¹² if we endure, we will also reign with him;

if we deny him, he also will deny us;

¹³ if we are faithless, he remains faithful—for he cannot deny himself.

1) *Consider Timothy:* Christians who persevere (suffer well) in ministry rely on God's grace, while holding fast and working hard towards their Gospel assignment. (vv. 1-7)

2) *Consider Paul:* Christians who encourage... (vv. 8-13)

a. Demonstrate faithfulness in their living.

b. Speak frequently of the work of Jesus Christ – the Gospel.

c. Point to God's unchanging character.

Application: Christian, let the Gospel empower you to work well – and encourage well.

Sunday Text Questions for 2 Timothy 2:1-13 (“Entrusted to You” Series)

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- 1) Starter Question: What was one memory you have of when someone spoke life-giving words to you?

- 2) Read the text aloud and discuss together any significant observations or issues needing clarification.

- 3) Suffering is the product of a life following Christ (cf. 2 Timothy 3:12). How does Paul encourage the suffering Timothy in this text?

- 4) Of Paul’s three metaphors in verses 3-6, which one stood out to you the most and why?

- 5) How do you respond to suffering? Have you suffered for the Gospel in your life before?

- 6) How does this text present biblical encouragement? How does this expand your view of what encouragement should look like?

- 7) Who is someone in your life that could use biblical encouragement right now? (Hint: it could be you...)

- 8) How can you be an encourager in the upcoming week?

- 9) How does this text challenge/grow your prayer life? How can you pray for one another in the upcoming week?

Further study this week: 2 Corinthians 1-3 (Mon); 2 Corinthians 4-5 (Tues); Hebrews 11 (Wed); Hebrews 12 (Thurs); Hebrews 13 (Fri).