

**I. Future Focused - 2 Tim. 2:1-2**

1. The problem is that he has shifted in focus to the circumstances, not the Lord
    - “then” - because of this
  2. My son - addressed as long-standing “son” relationship
  3. Be strong - in grace
    - Rea            -if you are strong in the strength of the Lord you can be weak in physical, emotional, etc. other strengths
    - this is the power for ministry
  4. He quickly moves to the purpose of ministry
    - A. What you have heard - proclaim
    - B. Heard among witnesses
    - C. Hand on to “reliable” men
      - men who could be depended on
      - Rea            -does that mean you cannot just hand it on?
      - note the word “entrust”
    - D. The idea is that they would “teach” others
      - Rea            -like passing a baton to the next generation or the next group of church members
- Rea    **Ideas and Questions:**
1. It involves a value judgement as to who can be “entrusted”
  2. Be strong - just a word of encouragement
    - does not say how to be strong, which is the question we all want to know - the “how?”
    - isn’t it enough for someone to say to us be strong?
  3. Look at the word to Joshua as he entered the promised land - very similar
    - read Joshua 1:9
  4. Isn’t there a place for us to “stiffen our spine?”
  5. Just saying these words is encouragement to Timothy
  6. The focus is not the future, the focus is the gospel and Timothy’s “job” - “duty”

**II. Mission Focused - 2 Tim. 2:3-7**

1. Three images for a faithful soldier
  - A. Suffering (**verses 3-4**)
    - Rea            -hardship - “endure hardness” is the KJV
    - a good soldier has to put up with hard/ harsh conditions - they just expect it
  - B. Don’t get involved in civilian affairs
    - raising a family, engage in business
    - Rea            -the word in the KJV is “entangled” - so wrapped up in this life that we forget the next
    - Rea            -personal pleasures often leave little room for eternal things
    - Rea            -random example, do you want to be a good golfer or a good Christian?
  - C. Please your commanding officer
    - we say what “brings glory to God”

Rea                    -“what “honors” God  
                          -here the language is just a little different - what “pleases” God  
                          -for me, I’d like people to remember that they have a commanding officer  
                          He is Lord - master, boss

2. Serve like an athlete (**verse 5**)

                         A. To win the victor’s crown  
                          B. To win according to the rules  
 Rea                    C. Could you serve Jesus like an Olympic athlete serves his/ her country

3. Serve like a good farmer (**verse 6**)

                         A. Let him share first in the crops  
                          B. Hardworking - not lazy  
                          C. Those diligent should share in the crop  
 Rea                    D. Do you think that Paul may have been alluding to pay for the minister?

4. Reflect on what I am saying (**verse 7**)

                         -he prays that God give Timothy “insight” into all this

Rea    **Ideas and Questions:**

1. All these images have hardship to them  
                          -so is the Christian life easy or hard?
2. There is also a message about succeeding as Christian - it requires work  
                          -I do know that “work” is a four-letter word
3. Timothy should not expect it to be easy - if he wants to succeed
4. Discuss the images with the idea of “ways to win”

### III. Christ Focused - 2 Tim. 1:8-13

1. Remember Jesus Christ (**verses 8-9**)

Rea                    -motive power to push through comes from the example of Jesus

2. A second example is that of Paul himself

                         A. He was chained  
                          -like a criminal  
 Rea                    -hmmm, I thought Christ “set the captives free” - this is a voluntary  
                          “chain” - we ought we willing to put up with anything for the gospel  
                          B. His word was not chained

3. Jesus

- A. Christ
- B. Descended from David
- C. Resurrected from the dead
- D. His gospel
4. The message cannot be chained - the word of God  
                          -his life was imperiled for the “elect” - the believers (**verse 10**)
5. Paul’s attitude - “I endure everything”  
                          -in what way, so that they too may obtain salvation

6. What type salvation

- A. That which is in Christ Jesus
- B. That which contains “eternal glory”
7. A trustworthy saying (**verses 11-13**)  
                          -if we die with Him, we will also live with Him

- if we endure will also reign with Him
  - if we disown Him, He will disown us (Mt. 10:33)
  - if we are faithless, He remains faithful
  - so, bottom line, we need be faithful, and endure
- Rea
- Rea **Ideas and Questions:**
1. Paul is encouraging Timothy to be faithful, as Christ was faithful
    - he is encouraging Timothy to be faithful, because he too is suffering for the faith (imprisonment)
  2. What about this idea - sometimes we have to simply “endure” some things
  3. They that endure to the end will be saved
  4. What have you “endured” for the gospel?
  5. Jesus was faithful to and through the cross
  6. We live in a culture that knows little about “work”
    - if we have to endure anything, we find “greener pastures”
    - marriage takes “work”
    - success at work takes “work”
    - success at church takes “work”

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