

**A Call to Serve**  
**2 Timothy 2:1-7**  
**Wednesday October 2, 2019**

Parting Words from Paul the Apostle to Timothy. Paul is imprisoned in Rome. He knows he will not see Timothy in-person again.

Words are emphatic, compassionate, illustrative, and profound.

1 Timothy – Guard the Gospel  
2 Timothy – Teach the Gospel

**Thought of the Passage:** Be brave, multiply yourself, suffer like a soldier, compete like an athlete, and work hard like a farmer.

**A Call To Serve**

- 1. A Good Leader – Not Timid (Verse 1)**
- 2. A Good Mentor – Teach Faithful Men (Verse 2)**
- 3. A Good Soldier – Suffer Hardship (Verse 3 – 4)**
- 4. A Good Athlete – Follow The Rules (Verse 5)**
- 5. A Good Farmer – Work Hard Like A Farmer (Verse 6)**
- 6. A Good Student – Examine These Instructions (Verse 7)**

Great in theory but useless unless we put these principles into practice.

**1. A Good Leader – Not Timid (Verse 1):**

**2 Timothy 2:1**

Son = Child. Paul has a spiritual father relationship with Timothy.

“**Be Strong**” = Not Timid. Be ready to make difficult decisions for the greater good.

In the Old testament, God tells Joshua “Be Strong and of Good Courage”

“Grace” enables you to be strong.

**2. A Good Mentor – Teach Faithful Men (Verse 2):**

**2 Timothy 2:2**

“The things which you have heard from me...”

Galatians 1:11-12, 1 John 4:6

Good teaching – entrust it to **“faithful men”**

Luke 16:11, Jeremiah 12:5, Mathew 25:23

1 Corinthians 4: 1-2 – We must be dependable and trustworthy

**“Faithful men”**

The standards of God differ from the standards of man.

1 Corinthians 1:26-31 – God can use the Foolish things of this world...

**“Able to teach”** – are teachable – Good students can make good teachers.

1 Corinthians 11:1

Follow Christ – Set your sight on Jesus, for He will never fail you.

None of us are essential for the work of God.

We are removed, the work continues.

There is no greater privilege than to be a useful instrument in the hand of God.

Tonight – Do you choose to be an instrument in the hand of God?

### **3. A Good Soldier – Suffer Hardship (Verse 3 – 4):**

#### **2 Timothy 2:3**

Suffer = Count the cost

2 Corinthians 11:23-29 – Paul’s Sufferings:

1) In Labors, 2) Imprisonments 3) Beatings by the Jews (5 times with lashes x 39 times = 195), 4) In Danger of Death (Robbers, false brothers, his own nation) 5) Beaten 3 times with rods. 6) Stoned 1 time  
7) Shipwrecked 3 times, 8) Sleepless nights, hunger, thirst, often without food, cold and exposure, 9) Concern for all the churches

Luke 14:28, Luke 9:62

#### **2 Timothy 2:4**

Ephesians 6:11-13

Ephesians 6:14-17 – The Armor of God

v. 14 Belt of truth v. 14 and breastplate of righteousness

v. 15 Shoes of the preparation of the Gospel of Peace v. 16 Shield of faith

v. 17 Helmet of Salvation v. 17 and the Sword of The Spirit (Word of God)

Galatians 1:10 – Who do I serve?

#### **4. A Good Athlete – Follow The Rules (Verse 5):**

##### **2 Timothy 2:5**

1) Determined 2) Strives to Win 3) Follows the Rules

1 Corinthians 9:24-27, Philippians 3:14

Personal preference and personal comfort are secondary and insignificant in the light of Christ's suffering and the importance of proclaiming His gospel.

**"It's not about you, Buckaroo"**

2 Timothy 4:7-8 – How we want to finish the race

#### **5. A Good Farmer – Work Hard Like A Farmer (Verse 6):**

##### **2 Timothy 2:6**

No lazy farmer survives

Proverbs 20:4

"It starts with you, buckaroo"

Acts 6:4, 1 Timothy 5:17, 2 Timothy 2:15

Notice that a Farmer does not get the glamour that the Soldier or the Athlete gets.

Micah 6:8

##### **3 Landmines – Pride, love of money, sexual sin.**

The Lord wants to use your life. Ultimately, to serve **His** people. Everything you do when you serve, is to serve His people. Usher, greeter, café, security, Doulos, teaching... every position in the church is to serve His people.

John 21:15-17

Peter has this to say to those in leadership.

1 Peter 5:1-4

## **6. A Good Student – Examine These Instructions (Verse 7):**

**2 Timothy 2:7** – Understanding comes from The Lord.

However, we must spend time in His word, time in prayer, time in private worship.

Psalm 1 – We have to be “recharged” every day.

God wants to use you. He has given you specific gifts to glorify Him and edify His church.

Let The Lord use you as a mighty instrument in His hand for his mighty purpose.

### **Application:**

- 1) What Is The Lord Asking of Me? Am I being a useful instrument in His hand?
- 2) Am I multiplying myself by mentoring and teaching others?
- 3) Do I consider the cost of following and serving Jesus? And do I choose to follow him no matter what that cost may be?
- 4) Do I suffer like a soldier, compete like an athlete, and work hard like a farmer?
- 5) What will I do today with this call to serve?