

2 Timothy

CHAPTER 4:6-16

Lesson 22

We see, in these verses in 2 Timothy 4, Paul's perspective of his past, present, and future. Paul's present reflected a readiness for his future which was based on his past faithfulness. May you be sweetly challenged by Paul's perspective.

Read 2 Timothy 4:6-16

1. Read through this week's verses using at least two different Bible translations or paraphrases. After reading through these verses, what would you say to someone if they asked you what they are about?
2. The contrasting word, *but*, is used two times in these eleven verses. Choose one instance of its use and record what is being contrasted.
4. Scan the references to Paul and summarize what you think his life was like at the time of writing this letter.

Read 2 Timothy 4:6

1. Paul began this section with the words, *I am already*. The literal definition is, *I am ready*. In your own words, define the word *ready*.

2. Ponder a time in your life when God enabled you to be *ready* for something that was difficult. What was that like?

3. What did Paul say he was *ready* for (noting that it was already occurring)?

a. A *drink offering* indicates a sacrifice either in life or death. What can we learn from the following verses about this?

Romans 12:1

Philippians 2:17

4. Paul knew that *the time of his departure was at hand*, indicating that the time of his death was imminent. Why is the word *departure* a good word to describe death?

5. Peter also was aware that his death was near. What did Peter write in 2 Peter 1:14?

a. Knowing this, what did Peter say was important to him? 2 Peter 1:15

b. If you knew your death was near, what are some things you would want others to know?

Read 2 Timothy 4:7,8

1. As Paul reflected upon his life in verse 7, what 3 things did he boldly declare about himself?

2. Before coming to Christ, Paul had fought the wrong *fight*, a *fight* that actually opposed the Lord. Ponder times in your life that you *fought* the wrong *fight*. What are your thoughts when you reflect upon God's forgiveness?

a. What were Paul's instructions to Timothy, in 1 Timothy 6:12, as he closed his first letter?

1.) Why do we sometimes need to be reminded to *fight the good fight*?

3. Each person's *fight* is different. Paul saw the *fight* as something good. What is good about the *fight* God has assigned to you?

4. Paul stated that he had *finished the race*. In what ways is our life like a *race*?

a. Read Acts 20:24. What do you observe about Paul?

5. What can we learn about the *race* from:

Philippians 3:13,14

Hebrews 12:1,2

6. Paul declared that he had *kept the faith*. As Jesus walked among the seven churches, as recorded in Revelation, His observance of the church in Philadelphia included no warnings or corrections. What praise did He declare about them in Revelation 3:10?

a. Define the word *persevere* using:

synonyms

antonyms

7. Paul had been faithful in his life. What did he declare in 2 Timothy 4:8?

a. What do you think it practically means to *look forward to His appearing*?

Read 2 Timothy 4:9-15

1. Although Paul lived a life surrendered to Jesus, human fellowship was still important to him. What does it say to you that he, knowing Timothy's pastoral responsibilities, asked Timothy to *be diligent to come to him* quickly?

2. Paul mentioned several men who had been a part of his life. What did he say about:

Demas

- a. Demas *forsook* Paul because *he loved this present world*. Paul included *Demas* among his fellow workers in Colossians 4:14 and Philemon 1:24. How might one turn from *loving* God to *loving this present world*?

Luke

- a. How did Paul refer to Luke in Colossians 4:14?

Mark

- a. What do we learn about Mark in Acts 15:37,38?

- b. At some point in time, Paul's relationship with Mark changed. What does this say to you?

Tychicus

- a. What do we learn about Tychicus in Colossians 4:7?

Alexander the Coppersmith

- a. Although he did Paul much harm, who did Paul trust to *repay*?

- b. What warning did Paul write in verse 15?

1.) What can we learn from Paul's reaction towards this one who *did him much harm*?

Read 2 Timothy 4:16

1. Write the words of verse 16.

2. Underline the phrases *no one stood with me, all forsook me, and may it not be charged against them.*
 - a. Describe the loneliness Paul must have felt.

3. Jesus not only was forsaken by His disciples but was terribly tortured and mocked by others. What was His response in Luke 23:34?
 - a. Record the words of Steven, in Acts 7:60, as he was being stoned to death for his faith.

5. What heart or knowledge would provoke someone to extend forgiveness as Jesus, Paul, and Steven did?

Review 2 Timothy 4:6-16

1. In what way were you challenged by Paul's example?

2. Lest we leave this lesson thinking Paul was feeling forsaken even by the Lord, what did he write in 2 Timothy 4:17?

And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness." Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

- 2 Corinthians 12:9