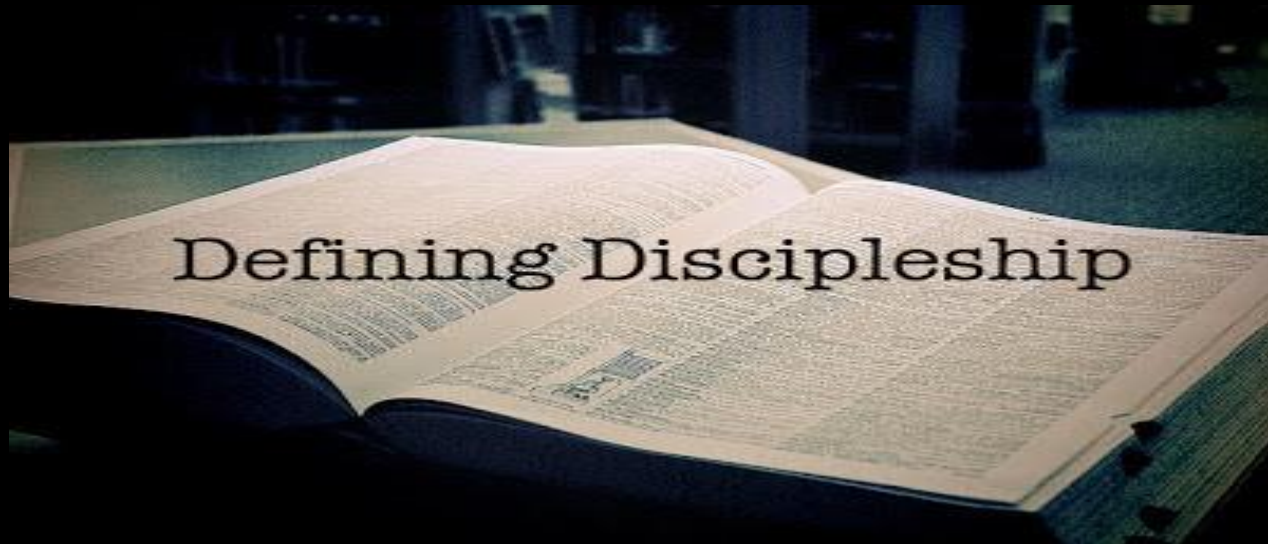


2 Timothy 4:6-8

4 Components Of The Bible's Summary Of Discipleship



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Background/Context

- Written by Apostle Paul to Timothy (written AD 67)
- Paul in Rome; arrested and put in Roman dungeon
- Terrible conditions and much difficulty
- Paul knew he only had a short time to live:
 - “poured out as a drink offering” – in time left, serving
 - “departure at hand” – nautical term for unloosing mooring ropes

There Is A Good Fight To Engage

- (v. 7a) Paul affirmed; he engaged in fighting evil, Satan, and sin; was force for good in pushing back darkness
- Paul active in spiritual warfare
- Paul saw part of Discipleship that of being a Christian soldier who fought the “good” fight
- Not one who hindered cause of Christ, but was aware of Satan’s tactics

- Eph. 6:11, “Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.”
- 2 Tim. 2:3, “You therefore must endure hardships as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.”



There Is A Meaningful Race To Run

- (v. 7b) Christian life compared to long-distance race, or marathon
- Paul, I was put in a life race by Jesus and I have sought to keep running to the finish
- I have sought to run well and complete the ministry Jesus gave to me
- I kept running with my eyes on Jesus

- Hebs. 12:1, “Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us.”
- Phils. 2:16, “...holding fast the word of life, so that I may rejoice in the day of Christ that I have not run in vain or labored in vain.”



There Is A Faith To Keep

- (v. 7c) Paul saw relationship with Jesus and His Kingdom as a priority
- Served so as to share Gospel and pass it on in its entirety; didn't compromise it
- Paul was faithful to defend and protect Gospel
- Many hardships, but was faithful to pass on how to be saved

- Hebs. 10:23, “Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful.”
- 2 Cors. 5:7, “For we walk by faith and not by sight.”



There Is An Eternal Crown To Receive

- (v. 8) Paul in awful dungeon, but had victory
- He given assurance of great things to come
- Paul; rejoiced that serving Jesus was always worth it; he receive soon a “Crown of Righteousness”
- (Possibly a real crown, but also symbol of eternal reward and authority in heaven)
- Jesus knew exactly where Paul was!

- 1 Cor. 9:25, “And everyone who competes for the prize is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a perishable crown, but we for an imperishable crown.”
- James 1:12, “Blessed is the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him.”

