



# HTC Small Group

## Discussion Questions

**Sermon Title:** Famous Last Words

**Sermon Date:** February 19, 2017

**Scripture:** 2 Timothy 1

**Speaker:** Pastor Matt Peca

1. 2 Timothy is a heartfelt letter that records the last written words of the great evangelist Paul before he was sentenced to death. If you were in the same situation as Paul, what would you hope to be *your* last words? Who would they be intended for?
2. Look at some of the following verses. What do these last words seem to indicate about them in their very last moments of life? King Herod (Acts 12:21-23); The thief on the cross (Luke 23:42-43); Jesus (John 23:46); Stephen (Acts 7:56-60); Sapphira (Acts 5:8-10); King Saul (1 Chron. 10:4-5); Goliath (1 Sam 17:43-44); Abimelech (Judg. 9:52-54); Jacob (Heb 11:21).
3. Although Paul is awaiting the death penalty, what does he focus on in (1:1)? Although confined to a prison cell, what appears to be his attitude in (1:3a)? In a place with little to do, how does he spend his time in (1:3b)?
4. Most of us here won't ever experience what it's like to be in jail like Paul. However, we may have circumstances in our lives that can come pretty close to us feeling trapped, bound, or stuck. Is there something going on right now in your life where you feel *confined*?
5. We get to see for a brief moment just how much Paul saw Timothy as a *son* (1:2) and how much Timothy admired Paul as a **spiritual father** in (1:4a). Thus Paul uses his very last words to encourage and empower Timothy. What about you? Did you have this kind of encouragement or empowerment growing up? Do you still long for it today? Discuss.
6. Read the following verses on encouragement (Heb. 10:24-25; Eph. 4:29; 1 Thess. 5:11). Who is it that you think you need to be more encouraging to? And in what ways? Another way of approaching this is to ask, "*Who or what am I overly critical about?*"
7. Paul spends the last bit of the chapter empowering Timothy to *fan into flame* the gift God gave him (1:6) and to not be afraid of using it (1:7). Do you ever feel like you don't know exactly what your spiritual gifts are? Have you been *fanning it into flame* lately?
8. Read the following verses on empowerment from the perspective of Joshua (Deut. 31:6; Josh. 1:1-9). What's going on in the passage? What does Joshua need to hear at this point? Who is it that empowers him? Discuss.
9. Who is it that you think you need to empower these days? And in what areas do they need to be empowered?