

Passing the Torch

Daily Verses

Sunday: 2 Timothy 1
Monday: 2 Timothy 2:1-13
Tuesday: 2 Timothy 2:14-26
Wednesday: 2 Timothy 3:1-9
Thursday: 2 Timothy 3:10-17
Friday: 2 Timothy 4
Saturday: Catch Up/Free Day

get daily scripture texts!
text @sherwoodo to 812-671-0028

Key Verse:

"Preach the message, be ready whether it is convenient or not, reprove, rebuke, exhort with complete patience and instruction."

2 Timothy 4:2

Daily Devotions

Go to socc.org/sherwood-oaks-blog for daily devotions

Pointing to Jesus

- Jesus was concerned about His followers transitioning from generation to generation. (Luke 18:8) In Paul's final letter, marking the close of the apostolic era, he wants the church to maintain its continuity with the past while facing the future.
- Jesus uses vine and branches imagery to warn His followers to keep contact with Him through the Holy Spirit. (John 15:1-8) Paul uses banking imagery to warn Timothy to safeguard the Gospel entrusted to him, empowered by the Holy Spirit. (1:8-14)
- Jesus warned that as He was persecuted, His followers would be persecuted. (Mark 10:28-34) Paul warns Timothy that as Jesus and Paul had suffered; all disciples should expect to suffer for the Faith.
- Using empowerment language similar to Moses commissioning Joshua (Deut. 31:7, Josh. 1:6), Paul gives Timothy two commands: entrust the Gospel to other reliable men who will teach other and endure hardship as a soldier. (2:1-7)
- Timothy has two sources of truth: what he learned from Paul and the Holy Scriptures. (3:10-17)
- Possessions Christians have "in Christ Jesus: the promise of life (1:1), salvation through God's purpose (1:9), faith and love (1:13), strength through grace (2:1), salvation (2:10), persecution for godly living (3:12), salvation through faith (3:15).

Questions for Reflection & Conversation

- Why is it so important to live a pure life when teaching Godly truth?
- Paul probably died soon after he wrote 2 Timothy. What would you want to say to the Christian community if you were facing persecution and death?
- What is your view of the Bible teaching on inspiration? How is God's "breath" in the Scriptures?
- Which of Paul's orders to Timothy (4:2) apply only to preachers and not to the rest of us?
- Paul is in prison, soon to die, cold (he wants Timothy to bring his cloak to him), bored ("bring the parchments"), lonely ("I sent Artemas and Tychicus to you"), deserted by Demas and all others except Luke and concerned about controversies. How do you find peace and joy in depressing circumstances?
- We have spent several weeks reading, hearing about and discussing Paul's letters. What are Paul's contributions to Christianity?

Still have questions you would like answered? Go to socc.org/ask-bible-guy or text 812-329-2315

Family Activity

2 Timothy 2:1 says, "You then, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Jesus Christ." In other words, God's Spirit makes us strong on the inside. Read the following story to see what Nathan learned about how God makes us strong on the inside:

Nathan's dad liked to visit their new house each day to see how much the workers had finished. Today Nathan had come with him to see the new walls, just frames of two-by-four boards. Nathan slipped between the boards, walking through the unfinished walls.

"In a few days the carpenters will add the siding boards," Dad said. "Then you won't be able to walk through the walls anymore."

Nathan knocked on one of the thick boards of the wall.

"These look pretty strong," Nathan said.

"Those boards are called studs," his dad explained. "They need to be strong so the walls will hold the house together."

"At our old house you can't see the studs," Nathan said.

"No," Dad said. "Once the walls are covered over on the inside and the outside you can't see the studs, but they make the walls strong."

Nathan thought about that. "I know something we can learn from the walls," he said.

"What's that?" Dad asked.

"Some people seem to be strong because they bully others or shout a lot," Nathan said. "But when Jesus lives inside us, we don't have to yell and push people around. We can be kind on the outside because we're strong on the inside."

"Right," Dad said. "No one can look inside you and see Jesus there. That is your hidden strength, like the studs hidden in the wall."

Can you think of a time when Jesus helped you to be strong?

Prayer: God, fill me with Jesus so I can be strong for You. Amen.

Staying Current with the Series

Missed a part of the Inspired series? You can pick up missed take-home sheets at the Welcome Center or download them at socc.org/inspired/deeper.