

- WELCOME TO -
MAURICE REFORMED CHURCH

...FOLLOWING GOD, LOVING OTHERS...



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PART OF THE TEAM

— A STUDY IN 2 TIMOTHY —
OCTOBER SERIES WITH PASTOR JEREMY

DAILY DEVOTIONALS
OCTOBER 4-10

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4

Study of 2 Timothy | Part of the Team

2 Timothy 1

“For the Love of the Game”

1. P_____ i_____ o_____ (2 Timothy 1:3-7)

2. C_____ (2 Timothy 1:8-14)

3. O_____ i_____ (2 Timothy 1:15-18)

MONDAY, OCTOBER 5

2 TIMOTHY 1:1-2 | THE PURPOSE

During the month of October we are going to be looking at the book of 2nd Timothy. Each week we will read over 1 chapter of the book and talk about what it means to be a part of team Jesus. My prayer is that this month would be an impactful month on how we live our lives for Jesus Christ individually and also how we live as a part of the greater body of Christ. Today I want to ask us about our passion level. How passionate are we for God and His people?

As we have seen in the past, the first few verses are simply a welcome and introduction to the letter being written, but these short verses can also show us the heart behind the letter. Paul is someone who has been sent out into the world for Jesus Christ and by the will of the Father. The letter comes from a deep sense of the love of God that invites us into the life that is promised in Jesus Christ. The life that Jesus promises is eternal, but on this side of eternity it may not always be easy. What we are reminded of here from Paul is that the focus should be on the life that God promises and not the current struggles we are facing.

This is great encouragement for each of us as we join team Jesus. God does not promise that life here on earth is going to also be great. In fact, we are told that we should expect persecutions as followers of Jesus Christ. Not everyone will agree with us and not everyone will like us, but that's not the point. In the highs and the lows we are to keep our focus on the call that God has on our life and the promises He has given to us for the life to come. Let's fix our eyes on God this week and courageously walk through the hard things of this life knowing that this is not all there is.

SONG:

“Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus” - Hillsong

KID'S QUESTION:

What can you do when following Jesus feels hard?

YOUTH/ADULT QUESTION:

What things do we tend to focus on instead of the life that we have in Christ Jesus?

PRA YER:

Lord, help us to live as sent ones from you in the will of the Father and according to the promised life in Christ Jesus.

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TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6

2 TIMOTHY 1:3-4 | LOVING GOD & LOVING OTHERS

To begin today I want us to think about the generational faith that we are a part of. If I'm honest, I don't know much about my family farther back than my grandparents. I know that my grandpa helped build the church in Sully, IA and that they were always a part of that church. I know my other grandparents attended the Reformed church in Prairie City, IA. I'm guessing that generations before them had faith in Jesus as well, but I am not able to confirm that.

In our passage today Paul lovingly remembers his family and their faith. Paul praises God for the generational faith passed on to him and he knows that Timothy has had his family pass on faith as well. Not only can we see Paul's gratitude to God for that faith, but we can see the love that he has for Timothy as he consistently prays for him and longs to fill Timothy with joy and not tears. Paul and Timothy are on team Jesus together, working on the same ministry for the expansion of the kingdom of God and they show us the importance of having passion for the mission we are called to and passion to support others doing the same work.

Whenever we are a part of a group we know that encouragement and support is important. We don't need someone constantly telling us good job, but we do need people that will walk alongside us when we are struggling through the hard parts of ministry. More than an attaboy or attagirl, we need brothers and sisters who understand the importance of the call that can relate to the struggle of faithfully following the call of God. May we be found constantly praying for our brothers and sisters in Christ and supporting them when they face moments of struggle and sadness.

SONG:

“Love Them Like Jesus” - Casting Crowns

KID'S QUESTION:

Who is someone you can pray for and encourage this week?

YOUTH/ADULT QUESTION:

How often do you pray for brothers and sisters in Christ?

Who needs support in ministry right now and what can you do to support them?

PRAAYER:

Lord, we ask that You will continue to strengthen the brothers and sisters in Christ in Maurice. Help them to remain faithful to You no matter what happens.

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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7

2 TIMOTHY 1:5-7 | FAN INTO FLAME

Some of you know that my kids love summer camp. They started going when they were in 3rd grade and now have served as counselors for years. My oldest daughter now lives at a church camp and she and her husband serve the ministry. One of the activities that they enjoy at camp is making a bonfire. Now whenever we have one at our house we have built in professional bonfire makers. One thing I do know about a fire is that when you fan it, it will get bigger and stronger.

Today in our passage we see Paul telling Timothy to fan into flame the gift that God has given him. This could be Paul encouraging Timothy to use the gift of preaching, leading and teaching that God has given Him, because Paul knows that that gift will grow stronger and brighter when it is used. If Timothy does not use the gift then the fire could burn out and dwindle.

At MRC we have been talking about gifts, passions, and desires and that it is important to use these things for the glory of God. So as Paul said to Timothy, I want to encourage us to fan into flame the gift of God in our lives. May we serve the Lord willingly and let the passion that He has placed in us burn brightly.

SONG:

“Set a Fire” - Jesus Culture

KID'S QUESTION:

What is something that you are good at? How can that be used to serve God and the church?

YOUTH/ADULT QUESTION:

What is something you are talented or gifted at? How are you using that for the kingdom of God?

PRA YER:

Lord, help us to fan into flame our passion for You and Your kingdom. May we faithfully live each day for You, using the gifts You have blessed us with.

[illegible]

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8

2 TIMOTHY 1:8-12 | DO NOT BE ASHAMED

As I am writing this devotional I am thinking about our unplugged worship from last night. We talked about the Israelites marking their doorways with blood the night of the Lord's Passover and we asked if we would be bold enough to stand out for Jesus like that. The Israelites trusted God more than their fears of what others might think, which reminds me of the passage today about being ashamed of the gospel.

Paul is clear that we are NOT to be ashamed of the gospel or of any hardship that comes because of the gospel. We are to stand firm on the truth of the gospel because by it we are saved and called to a holy calling. This is not because we are worthy or did anything to deserve it, but it is simply because of the grace of the most high God! Paul trusts that nothing will happen to him that is outside the will of God. He knows that nobody has the authority or the ability to take away what God has given to him.

Paul truly is all in for the gospel of Jesus Christ, and the things that might cause many of us to falter are things that Paul boldly walks through. Paul leads by example and encourages each one of us to continue to live boldly and confidently for the gospel no matter what comes our way. We can trust that God will bring us through it and that it has a purpose for His kingdom. May we each have the same passion for the gospel and the kingdom of God as Paul does in this passage.

SONG:

"I Am Not Ashamed" - The Collingsworth Family

KID'S QUESTION:

**Can you think of a time where it was hard to stand up for Jesus?
What can help you be bold and live out your faith?**

YOUTH/ADULT QUESTION:

Have you ever been ashamed of your faith in Jesus? You were bought with a price, how can that truth help you live today?

PRA YER:

Lord, help me hold tightly to Your truth and Your promises as I live unashamed of You and the gospel the week.

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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9

2 TIMOTHY 1:13-14 | LIVING IN THE SPIRIT

Our passage today covers two important pieces of being on team Jesus. First, is that we need to follow the pattern of the sound words that we have heard from The word of God. As Christians it is vitally important that we are passionate about following the word of God as it is written and not as we imagine it to be. God's word is true and we must trust it with our lives. So, do we trust the word of God and are we willing to build our life off of what it says?

Next up we are to guard the truth by the power of the Holy Spirit. We believe that the Holy Spirit dwells in all who believe and we know that the Holy Spirit is the one who convicts, guides, directs, and helps us understand the truth of the word of God. We also know that the enemy is out there trying to convince us that the word of God doesn't say what it actually says. This is why we desperately need to have ears to hear what the Holy Spirit is saying to us.

When it comes to our faith it is easy to have passion for the things that come easy. We can be passionate about certain songs we sing, we can be passionate about a short devotion time that gives us a good thought for the day, and we could be passionate about the feel good moments of service or trips. I'm wondering if we have an undying passion for the word of God, the truth in it and the one who lives in us to help us know God better? As we continue this week, focused on being passionate for all things on team Jesus, may we grow in our passion and hunger for the word of the Lord and the leading of the Holy Spirit.

SONG:

"Yesterday, Today and Forever" - Passion, Kristian Stanfill

KID'S QUESTION:

Why is it important to listen to what God says in the Bible? What is one way you can spend more time learning from God's Word?

YOUTH/ADULT QUESTION:

How excited are you to read the word of God everyday? How do you respond when the word of God says something different than you want it to say?

PRAYER:

Lord, increase our passion for Your word and Your presence in our lives.

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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10

2 TIMOTHY 1:15-18 | SEEK EARNESTLY

As we close out this week about being passionate for the life that God has blessed us with, I want to encourage us to hold tightly to the faith that we have in Jesus. May we not hold tightly just for ourselves, but may we be encouragers for those who are living out their faith as well. When others face struggles may we be there to support and not be bashfully quiet. May we seek out earnestly those who are faithful servants of God and be encouragers.

Paul faced people of all kinds. In some instances he dealt with those who turned away from him and the gospel because of the hardships he was dealing with. Those people imagined that God would never let anything bad happen to one of His people, so that must have meant that Paul was not doing things right. In the midst of these negative interactions God provided others who earnestly sought out Paul and encouraged him in his faith. As we can imagine this helped Paul walk through the days that he felt alone and overwhelmed.

The challenge I have for us today is to earnestly seek out fellow brothers and sisters that might be struggling. Maybe they are struggling standing up for the truth, maybe they are feeling alone in their relationship with God, or maybe they have faced ridicule for what they believe. Since we are a part of a team, may we encourage our teammates on team Jesus to live obedient and faithful lives in the Lord.

SONG:

“Hope of the Ages” - Cody Carnes

KID'S QUESTION:

What is one way you can encourage someone who is having a hard time following Jesus?

YOUTH/ADULT QUESTION:

Have you ever had people walk away from you because of your faith? How can you be a blessing to someone else today in their faith?

PRAAYER:

Lord, may we always be the people who encourage others in their faith rather than walk away. Give us eyes to see who we can encourage today.

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