



<u>June 8th, 2025 – 2 Timothy 2 – Be Strong</u>

This guide is designed to give helpful hints in preparing for your group discussion.

Quick Review

Look back from your sermon notes – Was there anything that particularly challenged you from this sermon? Anything you didn't understand, agree with or connect with?

Introduction

When was the last time that you acted in your own wisdom, thinking you had the necessary information to succeed only to find that you did not? How would it have helped had you been given someone with the right information, or proper teacher? What was the outcome of your actions? How did you respond?

Digging In

Question 1: Read 2 Timothy 2:1-2. The first command we see in this passage that Paul passes down to Timothy is to "be strong!" This is NOT a suggestion but a command! This command comes by understanding the "grace in Christ Jesus." How does understanding the grace, the free gift of salvation give you strength? How should it strengthen you? Paul also encourages Timothy to <u>"be a faithful teacher"</u> of the Word. The imagery here is like passing the baton off in the "race of faith." How are you, like Paul did to Timothy, passing the Gospel on the next generation?

Question 2: Read 2 Timothy 2:3-6. The second principle Pastor Jeff pointed out in this passage was to be like "a solider who is focused!" Paul uses specific imagery here to remind Timothy and the readers that to stay on the tasks that Jesus wants us to pursue, we can't get entangled in affairs "of this world." What things in this world often take your focus away from what Christ has commissioned you to do? How does reminding yourself of our "spiritual armor" in **Ephesians 6:10-17** keep you focused on your task as a solider of Christ? How does it remind you of the enemy you are up against?

<u>Question 3: 2 Timothy 2:5.</u> The other picture that Paul gives Timothy is that of an athlete. He specifically addresses the WAY that the athlete competes! He says that they will not be given the prize "unless they compete according to the rules." Why do you think that Paul mentions this? How do you think Christians should "compete" according to the rules? What do you think is the opposite of competing against the rules when it comes to the things of faith?

Question 4: 2 Timothy 2:6. The last word picture that we see is that of a farmer. The apostle Paul is telling Timothy the last way in this passage that a servant of Christ looks like. The hard-working farmer, who is planting seed, watering, and keeping watch over his crops will see fruit! Galatians 5:22-23 tells us what spiritual fruit looks like! How have you seen spiritual fruit come from being a faithful teacher of the gospel? In what ways should we EXPECT fruit when we are faithful with the message of Christ? How do you consider "working-hard" in being a servant for Christ and His message of salvation?

Praise / Prayer Requests

Pray for your group with these things in mind:

<u>Adoration</u> – How can I praise God for what this teaches me? <u>Confession</u> – What sin can I confess because of what this teaches me? <u>Thanksgiving</u> – How can I thank God for what Jesus has done? <u>Supplication</u> – What do I need to ask of God in order to grow in light of this?