

2 TIMOTHY 4:1-8

TIME ALONE WITH GOD

LESSON 7

GROUNDING YOURSELF

As you prepare to engage in this passage, pray this prayer: *Holy Spirit, speak to me through Your Word today. Teach me truth so I can teach others.*

GRASPING THE SCRIPTURES

Read 2 Timothy 4:1-8 (feel free to look up a few different translations)

-What charge does Paul give Timothy in verse 2? What tone does he use? How do you know this?

-How does Paul say we should "preach the Word?"

-Imagine yourself as a shy or timid believer. What part of this passage might be most convicting to you? Imagine yourself as an assertive and confident believer. What part of this passage might be most convicting to you?

-Read the following excerpt from Christ-Centered Exposition Commentary:

Paul adds, "The time for my departure is close." The word translated "departure" is also used in Greek literature for the loosing of a ship from its moorings or a soldier loosing the stakes of his tent. The image of a boat is indeed a beautiful one. I love the image of Paul lifting the anchor, tossing aside the ropes, and joyfully sailing to a better place. The believer never really dies; she just departs. (Merida, 213)

-How does this imagery of a boat being "loosed" influence the way you read Paul's words? What other imagery does Paul use to talk about his expected death?

-Who will receive the same reward, the "crown of righteousness," as Paul?

GETTING YOUR HANDS DIRTY

Find a hard copy of the Bible and carry it with you each day this week. Mentally or physically note what difference this makes in your daily life.

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TIME WITH OTHERS

LESSON 7

GLEANING INSIGHT FROM OTHERS

To work through with a small group

We encourage you to begin your time by reading through the passage aloud and closing your time in prayer with one another.

-Besides the Bible, what other spiritual books have you found helpful in your spiritual life?

-Are you continuing to learn the bible? How are you pursuing this?

-From your perspective, what do people want to hear? What do they need to hear?

-If you were asked to “preach the Word” at this moment, what would you say? Do you have a favorite message that you would always be ready to share?

-What’s something from this week’s time in 2 Timothy that has left a mark on you? (something you need to think about more, something you want to talk with someone about, something you want to put into practice, etc)

-In the “Getting Your Hands Dirty” section on the front side of this page, you were challenged to carry a hard copy of the Bible with you throughout the week. Is there anything notable that you’d like to share with your group about that experience?

GUIDING OTHERS

To work through with Family & Friends

The idea behind this section is to give parents a few questions they could talk through with their kids at the dinner table or while tucking them in at night. But this is not limited to parents of young children. These questions could be discussed with folks of any age.

Read 2 Timothy 4:6 (ERV)

“My life is being given as an offering for God.”

Talk about it:

An offering is a gift that someone makes to God. The gift is usually valuable and not easy to give up. Paul describes his life as an offering.

1. What does it mean to give your life as a gift to God?
2. How can you give your life to God as a gift?
3. What might be hard about living your life as a gift to God?