

Union Bethel AME Church Bible Study

Dial-in Number: (425) 436-6260 Access Code: 141997#

Zoom Meeting ID 895 5691 3317, Passcode 650467

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Tuesday, February 9, 2021, 6:30 – 7:30 PM

2 Timothy 1:1-18

2 Timothy 1:1-2

1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus, 2 To Timothy, my beloved child: Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

Timothy was not Paul's biological child but Paul addressed him as such. No matter what was said in this letter, Paul's introduction was designed to get Timothy ready to receive the message. Using words like, will of God, apostle of Christ Jesus, promise of life, and beloved help set the tone.

What are some key words that we can use to get people ready to hear a message?

2 Timothy 1:3-7

3 I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. 4 Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. 5 I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. 6 For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; 7 for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

Paul continues to pour good information into Timothy's spirit. He prays for Timothy and references the faith instilled in Timothy by both his grandmother and his mother. Paul specifically mentions laying on hands for certifying spiritual gifts. Finally, Paul reminds Timothy that followers of

Christ are not afraid but have power, love, and a sound mind through self-discipline.

How does the faith of our ancestors show in us?

How do power, love and self-discipline help us use our spiritual gifts?

2 Timothy 1:8-14

8 Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, relying on the power of God, 9 who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace. This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, 10 but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. 11 For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, 12 and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day what I have entrusted to him. 13 Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. 14 Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

Paul tells Timothy not to be ashamed to testify about Jesus. However, in giving that testimony both Paul and Timothy may suffer. The suffering is not significant compared with the holy calling from God through grace and the eternal life through Christ Jesus.

How do true followers of Christ experience suffering?

2 Timothy 1:11-14

15 *You are aware that all who are in Asia have turned away from me, including Phygelus and Hermogenes. 16* *May the Lord grant mercy to the household of Onesiphorus, because he often refreshed me and was not ashamed of my chain; 17* *when he arrived in Rome, he eagerly searched for me and found me 18* *—may the Lord grant that he will find mercy from the Lord on that day! And you know very well how much service he rendered in Ephesus.*

This section closes with Paul asking for prayers those who helped Paul in his missionary work. He also speaks of those who turned away. Curiously, Paul speaks of turning away from Paul and not from Jesus.

Why would Paul state turning away from him was a bad thing?
