

The Apprentice:

First Century Leadership in a Twenty-First Century World
2 Timothy Series

Sermon 2: Lessons In Christian Leadership (2 Timothy 2:1-13)

1. 2 Leadership Encouragements

-Be strong in grace (not strong in yourself)

-Hand on the truth to reliable teachers

2. 3 Metaphors

-Soldier

-Athlete

-Farmer

3. Reading God's word

-A leader must learn the spirituality of Bible reading

4. 2 Reminders

-remember the gospel: Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, a descendant of David

-suffer for the sake of the elect

5. A poem

-How do we respond to suffering? Encouragement and warning

Conclusion:

-Lessons Christian leadership

-Is God calling you to the ministry of teaching?

Bible study: 2 Timothy 2:1-13
For personal reflection and discussion in small groups

1You then, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. 2And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others. 3Endure hardship with us like a good soldier of Christ Jesus. 4No one serving as a soldier gets involved in civilian affairs—he wants to please his commanding officer. 5Similarly, if anyone competes as an athlete, he does not receive the victor's crown unless he competes according to the rules. 6The hardworking farmer should be the first to receive a share of the crops. 7Reflect on what I am saying, for the Lord will give you insight into all this.

8Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, descended from David. This is my gospel, 9for which I am suffering even to the point of being chained like a criminal. But God's word is not chained. 10Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they too may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory.

11Here is a trustworthy saying:

If we died with him, we will also live with him;

12 if we endure, we will also reign with him.

If we disown him, he will also disown us;

13 if we are faithless, he will remain faithful,
for he cannot disown himself.

What would it mean for you to be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus? (Be as practical as you can).

What qualifies someone as able to teach others?

Metaphor 1: The dedicated soldier

What parallels between the soldier and the Christian does Paul highlight.

How do we discern what is a distraction? Are distractions different for different people?

Can you think of things that hinder you from being a soldier of Christ Jesus?
What will you do about these things?

Metaphor 2: The rule-abiding athlete

In what ways is the Christian life like a race?

What *rules* are there that we need to keep in order to win through?

Metaphor 3: the hardworking farmer

In what ways do you find the Christian life to be hard work? Should it be like this do you think? Why?

How do Paul's words in verse 7 give us insight in to how we are to read the Bible?
Do you read the Bible in that way?

What surprises you about Paul's summary of the gospel in verse 8?

In what sense did Paul's suffering help to secure the salvation of others? Have you experienced anything like this?

What is your response to the poem in verse 11-13? What truths does the poem teach us about God?

What common themes is Paul repeatedly addressing in verses 1-13? In what ways have you found hardship and suffering to be an important part of the Christian life?