

2 Timothy

CHAPTER 1:1-7

Lesson 14

When Paul wrote the letter we know as 2 Timothy, his situation had changed drastically. He was now a prisoner in Rome and was facing certain death. Almost all of Paul's associates in the ministry were gone and only Luke was at his side. Paul's concern was not for himself; it was for Timothy and the furtherance of the gospel. Paul begins this letter with words reflecting his love and encouragement for Timothy as he commits to Timothy what had been committed to him.

Read 2 Timothy 1:1-7

1. Read through this week's verses using at least two different Bible translations or paraphrases. After reading through these verses, what would you say to someone if they asked you what they are about?
2. The contrasting word, *but*, is used in 2 Timothy 1:7. Record what is being contrasted.
4. In the beginning words of 1 Timothy, Paul addressed Timothy as *a true son in the faith*. These first verses of 2 Timothy reveal even more of Paul's heart towards Timothy. Scan 2 Timothy 1:1-7 and share a few words or phrases that describe Paul's thoughts toward Timothy.

Read 2 Timothy 1:1-2

1. Although this letter begins with words that express the relationship of a spiritual father to his son, what words does Paul use to describe himself in verse 1?

a. Why do you think it was important for Paul to establish this calling?

2. Paul stated that his calling was *by the will of God*. Why is it important to you to know that your place or calling in life is *by the will of God*?

3. Paul stated that he was *an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, according to the promise of life which is in Christ Jesus*. Using the following verses, state *the promise of life which is in Christ Jesus*:

John 5:24

John 17:3

Ephesians 3:6

Challenge: Share other verses that proclaim a promise that we have *in Christ Jesus*.

4. Explain what it means to be *in Christ Jesus*.

5. In 2 Timothy 1:2, Paul addressed Timothy as his *beloved son*. Paul was not Timothy's natural father but was the man who had the privilege of raising and mentoring Timothy in the Lord. What are some experiences that you think they might have shared together that would create the bond that they had?

a. What might you do to nurture that kind of relationship with another believer?

6. The term of conclusion, *therefore*, is used in verse 6. Mark the word and record what the conclusion is based upon.

7. Paul's heart for Timothy, as recorded in verse 2, included three things. List and define each of them.

Read 2 Timothy 1:3

1. Record the second phrase of 2 Timothy 1:3.

a. In your own words, describe a *pure conscience*.

b. Paul specifically stated that he *served with a pure conscience*. Contrast serving with and without a *pure conscience*.

2. Paul had committed horrendous sins. What did he confess about himself in the following verses?

1 Corinthians 15:9

1 Timothy 1:13

1 Timothy 1:15

a. Record the glorious words of comfort written between 1 Timothy 1:13 and 1 Timothy 1:15.

b. What words would you declare after admitting your sins?

3. Why is it so important to serve God *with a pure conscience*?

4. The phrase, *as my forefathers did*, refers to the men who, before Paul's time, served God with a pure heart. Who is one example in the Old Testament that Paul may have had in mind?

a. Share one thing about that man that you admire.

5. How often did Paul say he prayed for Timothy?

Pause for a moment and ask the Lord for someone in ministry that you might be consistently praying for.

Read 2 Timothy 1:4-5

1. Paul *greatly desired to see* Timothy. They had experienced much together. Consider the contrasting emotions of *tears* and *joy*. Ministering includes both times of sorrow and joy. What are some examples of each?

2. In verse 5, Paul concluded the sentence he began in verse 3 giving an example of a source of Paul's joy. What was it?
 - a. Define the word *genuine* as it relates to *faith*.

3. Timothy displayed the same *faith* as *dwelt first in his grandmother Lois and his mother Eunice*. In what ways might you impact the *faith* of another?

Read 2 Timothy 1:6,7

1. 2 Timothy 1:6 begins with the contrasting word, *therefore*. Because of Paul's relationship with Timothy and his knowledge of his faith, Paul reminded Timothy of something. What was it?
 - a. Record Paul's exhortation to Timothy in 1 Timothy 4:14.
 - 1.) Who *laid hands on* Timothy in this verse?

 - 2.) Who *laid hands on* Timothy according to 2 Timothy 1:6?
 - a.) These are probably two separate instances. What are your thoughts about *laying on of hands*?

2. Timothy was told in 1 Timothy to *not neglect the gift*. He was told in 2 Timothy to *stir up the gift*. Define the phrase *stir up* as it relates to *gifts*.
 - a. What are some antonyms of the word *fear*?

3. The word *for*, in verse 7, is expressed as Paul's reason for his *reminder* to Timothy in verse 6. In what ways can *fear* be related to a reminder to *stir up a gift*?
 - a. Why are we not to give into this *fear*?

 - b. Paul was exhorted not to go to Jerusalem as great danger and harm awaited him. What was his response? See Acts 20:24

4. What added understanding to 2 Timothy 1:7 do you find in Romans 8:15?

Challenge: What are some of your favorite verses that help you counter the crippling effects of *fear*?

5. What does it mean to you that the *spirit of fear* does not come from God?
 - a. Rather than a *spirit of fear*, what has God given us?

b. How do each of these, when applied, help in times of *fear*?

Review 2 Timothy 1:1-7

1. In what ways were you personally challenged by these verses?

2. In what ways were you challenged about:

Praying for others

Stirring up your gift(s)

Countering the *spirit of fear*?

*He stores up sound wisdom for the upright;
He is a shield to those who walk uprightly;
- Proverbs 2:7*