

Taking it Home

- What does it mean for you to preach the Word if you are not a preacher? Can you apply this if you are not one who is on a platform or behind a pulpit?

Living the Legacy You Want to Leave
Stay the Course
2 Timothy 4:1-8

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Stay the Course

Notes:

- What did Pastor Andy say it means for someone to, “fulfill your ministry,” according to 4:5? Ephesians 4:12 and Colossians 4:17. This seems to be a routine message in Paul’s ministry.
- It is never too late to finish well. Paul concluded that he fought the good fight by keeping the faith. What fights do you feel are most important if you are to finish well?
- To fulfill your ministry is to bring it to completion, to finish it. You and I must not quit until we are done. How do 2 Timothy 4:7-8 serve to encourage you to keep going? Consider also Philippians 3:14 as a verse to encourage you to keep going.

At Home Study Guide

For the week of November 15, 2015

2 Timothy 4:1-8

Quick Review

Modern followers of Jesus can find great application in Paul's solemn charge to Timothy in 2 Timothy 4:1-8. Timothy had served the local church for years. He knew the challenges facing a church leader from inside and outside the congregation. This season of his ministry was especially challenging as his mentor, Paul, was awaiting death at the hands of the Romans. One can imagine how distressed Timothy may have been with so many things happening around him. And yet, Paul charged Timothy to preach the word of God. He commanded that he be ready at all times to reprove, rebuke, exhort and to do so with complete patience as he taught. Paul warns Timothy that a time is coming when people will less and less endure sound teaching. Paul didn't seek to encourage Timothy with empty platitudes but with the truth that God is present and He will judge the living and the dead. Like Timothy in the early church, we face an uncertain future as people reject the truth of God for lesser loves. Like Timothy, we must endure knowing that there is hope in Jesus for those who finish well.

My Story

- What stood out to you or uniquely impacted you from the message on Sunday?
- Do you know anyone who refuses to hear God's words and instead flees to teachers who say what they want to hear?
- Have you personally or do you know someone who has walked away from Jesus? How did this impact you? How did it impact them?

Growing Deeper

- List the 5 imperatives you see in 2 Timothy 4:2. What is the basis for this charge according to 4:1? Why is that important?
- Paul wrote to Timothy about times to come when people would love themselves, their money and their pleasures more than God (3:1-9). What will be the result according to 4:3-4? What qualities define these people? Do you see people today who evidence this?
- How are you and I to respond to those who turn away from truth according to 4:5? Take time to identify the four verbs in this verse and then flesh out what each means.
- Read Matthew 16:24-28. Paul wrote that adversity and persecution are normal in the life of one who follows Jesus (3:10-12). Why is this an important backdrop to 4:6-8?
- Notice how 4:7 is the fulfillment of 2 Timothy 2:1-13. What is the pattern that gets repeated?