

FAITHFULLY FOLLOWING JESUS

DINNER TIME DISCUSSION:

in 2 Timothy, Paul used the phrase "my gospel." Pastor Dave said he used that word because his relationship with Jesus and Jesus's good news was very personal to him, truths he built his life on. What's your story of Jesus becoming and being personal to you?

GOSPEL IN EVERYDAY LIFE:

How can you bring a longer term perspective of God's faithfulness to the chapter of your story you are currently living?

SERIES SYNTHESIS:

How does the hymn found in 2 Timothy 2:11-13 pull together the key themes of 2:1-13?

MEMORY VERSE:

*For I know the plans I have for you,
declares the Lord,
plans for welfare and not for evil,
to give you a future and a hope.*

Jeremiah 29:11, ESV

DEVELOPING DISCIPLINES:

Practice praying promises of God out loud that remind you of His faithfulness. Declare these truths.

Before turning to the internet to find the promises of God, turn to each other. Ask your community - what promises from God's Word do you cling to? Why?



To be a Christ centered community helping people faithfully follow Jesus both locally and globally.

Leader Resource Guide

Date: January 30, 2022

Faithful Words



SERMON NOTES

2 Timothy 2:8-13

Where is God's Faithfulness?

1. God **SECURED YOUR VICTORY**

2. God **HAS A PURPOSE THAT WILL NOT BE STOPPED**

3. God **IS FAITHFUL**

4. God **WILL USE THAT, TOO**

COMMUNITY BUILDING

What was an iconic song from your childhood? (one you always danced to, or what you remember listening to on your own over and over and over, or maybe the first song that was your favorite.)

Review verses you have been memorizing as a group, like II Timothy 1:7, 12; 2:2; or others.

What's something that has happened in your life that looking back on it, you see God's faithfulness, even though it was hard to see Him in the story at the time?

CHRIST CENTERED DISCUSSION:

1. What are the challenges and the comforts Paul gives to Timothy in 2 Timothy 2:8-13?

Read the passage together and review your sermon notes. This is a great question to recap the sermon.

2. According to Galatians 1:11-12, what was the origin of that message that Paul says is "his gospel" in 2 Timothy 2:8? What is the significance of that?

3. Throughout 2 Timothy, Paul repeatedly anchors his instructions to Timothy in the Gospel. What are the realities of the Gospel referred to in 2:8-13?

4. In a recent newsletter, a Woodlands missionary serving in a difficult country reported that after creatively connecting with hundreds of university students, their team saw 12 people receive Christ and identified 4 others who were already Christians. 2 Timothy 2:9 says, "the word of God is not bound (chained)." How does that encourage you? Share other examples you know of where the word of God is penetrating other cultures. Stop and thank the Lord for the powerful impact of his Word.

5. Paul continually reminds Timothy that those who follow Jesus will suffer. As a group, choose a country where you know Christians are being persecuted. Have your group members do some research on what that looks like to report back to the group and begin praying specifically and regularly for the persecuted believers in that country. You may remember from our "What in the World?" series of the UPG of the Day app (Unreached People Group). You can also utilize the resources put out by Operation World - they have daily prayer calendars, daily emails, an app, and books that will aid you in finding and learning about the state of Christianity around the world.

6. We often hear phrases like: "no pain, no gain" or "no cross, no crown" or "nothing that is easy is ever worthwhile / nothing that is worthwhile is ever easy." Discuss these ideas as they relate to the steps you're taking in your walk with Jesus in 2022.

7. During difficult times, we can honestly say "I'm not okay, but I will be." Share an experience when you had to cling to a future "okay" based on God's character or Word because in your present reality, you were just not ok.

8. Sometimes during difficult times, we have "unfaithful" words that play in our hearts and minds - words that bring discouragement or fear or shame. What methods can we use to stop those "songs"?

Hiddenness is a great place for harmful songs (lies, deceptions, and distortions) to take root and grow. Speaking those dark thoughts out loud can bring light to and expose them. Then they can be replaced with a faithful song.

9. Pastor Dave said we need Faithful Words to "hang our hat on" during difficult times. What practices do you have in your life that expose you to those faithful words so that when the hard time comes, you already know them?

Encourage your group members to be in the Word consistently so they have a foundation when a tough time comes. David Mathis has encouraged to "Mark a trail to heaven (God)" in the light so that you know the path well in the dark too. (Humbled, 2021) This could be their regular reading, group discussion times, verses they have memorized, etc.