

# Being a Minister for Christ

Lesson 6

2 Timothy 2:1-21

May 2, 2021

## Pass on the Gospel

### Introduction

Just before His arrest, Jesus called His disciples together and gave them a task: “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.” (Matthew 28:19-20a) As followers of Christ, this task also belongs to us now. We are to study God’s Word, seek to understand what it says and follow Jesus’ teaching. Becoming a disciple means that we must become a learner.

But the call to discipleship didn’t end with learning. Rather, it tasks us with going and teaching. But how? How do we do this? As we work through 2 Timothy, Paul lays out what we need to be disciples of Jesus, serve one another, encourage one another, bear each other’s burdens, and love one another.

***Memory verse: “And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others.”—2 Timothy 2:2***

Pray and read 2 Timothy 2:1-21. What questions or observations do you have about this passage?

### What does the passage say?

1. In what should we be strong? (2 Timothy 2:1)

2. Who do soldiers try to please? How does an athlete receive the victor's crown? (2 Timothy 2:4-5)
  
3. Who will give insight? (2 Timothy 2:7)
  
4. To what does Paul compare his chains? How do his chains compare to that? (2 Timothy 2:9)
  
5. Complete the table using 2 Timothy 2:11-13.

If we died with him,	
If we endure,	
If we disown him,	
If we are faithless,	

6. How are we to present ourselves to God? What are we to avoid? (2 Timothy 2:15-16)
  
7. With what inscription is God's foundation sealed? (2 Timothy 2:19)
  
8. For what are "those who cleanse themselves" to be instruments? (2 Timothy 2:21)

## What does the passage mean?

1. Many Christian teachers are good speakers but not powerful leaders. They lack the conviction and fortitude to pass on the truth of the Word. What do we need if we are going to be disciples for Christ? (Joshua 1:7; 1 Corinthians 16:13; Ephesians 6:10-11; Philippians 4:13; 2 Timothy 2:1)
  
2. God calls us to be witnesses to others about His love and salvation. To do this, we must be strong in God's grace (2 Timothy 2:1). How can you rely on God's grace? (John 15:5; 2 Corinthians 12:9-10; James 4:6; 2 Peter 3:18)
  
3. Teachers in schools tend to have a great deal of knowledge about the subject they teach. If they didn't, how could they teach that material to their students? If we are to be teachers of the Word to others, what must we be willing to do to be good teachers? (Psalm 119:11; 1 Peter 3:15; 2 Peter 1:5-8; James 1:21-22, 25)

4. It's easy to get into arguments over interpretations about what the Bible says. (2 Timothy 2:14) Some will take a verse out of context and twist it to their purposes. But as teachers of Christ, on what should we stay focused when discipling others? (John 14:6; Romans 10:9; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Galatians 2:20; 2 Timothy 2:8)
  
5. Timothy was believed to be a timid man and easily discouraged, so Paul wrote this letter to him. We often wonder what we can offer God—we are sinners and may have aspects of our life of which we are ashamed. How can God use our weakness to do His work? (Isaiah 40:29-31; 1 Corinthians 1:26-31; 2 Corinthians 12:5; Ephesians 2:10)

### **Applying the passage**

1. Who had the most impact on your growth as a Christian? What qualities about that person caused you to draw closer to God? How could you pass that on to others?

2. Do you faithfully study God's word? What prevents you from taking time with God daily?

3. What keeps you from following Jesus more closely?  
Write a prayer giving that fear or worry to God.