



DISCUSSION GUIDE

2 Timothy 4:1-8 – Finish Well

GETTING STARTED

Remind each other of our simple expectations for meeting together

If you could be known for one thing in your life, what would you want it to be? Why? Who is someone's faith you admire, and why?

QUICK REACTIONS FROM THE MESSAGE

How would you summarize/paraphrase the message in your own words?

What point/idea resonated most with you? Why?

What idea, context, Scripture do you think could have been expanded on, or included in the message?

It's not how you start, but how you finish that is important. Dave suggested three ways from 2 Timothy 4:1-6 that we can finish the life of faith well. 1. Walk with God with the future in mind. 2. Prioritize what is important in the present and 3. Keep the end in mind.

Questions: Which of these is most important to you to finish well? What priority or priorities come to mind for you in running the race of faith? Reference, verse 2 for the priorities Paul calls Timothy to pay attention, for what God may be calling you to prioritize.

How can we, even as Christians want to hear what we want to hear? To gather teaching around our own desires and preferences and avoid hearing God?

EXPLORE THE PASSAGE [2 Timothy 4:1-8]

Who will Jesus Christ judge? (4:1)

For what did Paul want Timothy to be prepared? (4:2)

What time did Paul say was coming? (4:3)

What will people one day do with the truth? (4:4)

What did Paul instruct Timothy to do? (4:5)

Why was Paul ready for his impending death? (4:6)

What had Paul done? (4:7)

What was in store for Paul? (4:8)

Who will God award a crown of righteousness? (4:8)

QUESTIONS THAT HELP US UNDERSTAND THE TEXT

What would you say you are known for in your work, friendships, church, neighborhood, family, etc?

Why is it good news that Jesus is our "Judge"?

In what way do you long for and look forward to His appearing? How can this help us focus on our calling in the present?

What was Timothy to prioritize in his calling? What kinds of things (gifts, talents, treasure) do you think God is calling you to prioritize in the present?

What do you consider "sound doctrine"? Why is it important that we prioritize this in our lives in order to finish well the race of faith?

What did it mean that Paul was pouring himself out as a drink offering? Why is sacrifice such an important element of living out our faith?

What does it look like for you and I to fight the good fight, finish the race, and keep the faith?

What is the crown of righteousness that Paul says is in store for him? Considering that we are justified by faith in Christ alone, what would the crown of righteousness be for us who follow Christ? (Don't be afraid to google, or look up what the crown of righteousness may be).

APPLY THE PASSAGE

What do we learn about God and about ourselves in this passage?

How can you be more discerning?

Is there something or someone that you need to "stay away from"?

How can we pray for each other?