



SUNDAY SERMON

RECAP

17 November 2024

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Sermon Notes

Sermon title: The Book of 2nd Timothy (Part 8)

Pastor: Claudio Silveiro

Scripture Reading: 2 Timothy 4:9-22 (NKJV)

Introduction

It has been a wonderful journey as we have gone through both 1 Timothy and now 2 Timothy. We have been encouraged in so many different ways.

- Have a passion for God's people
- Stir up the gift within you
- Raise up others to spread the Gospel
- Be focused as a soldier, athlete and farmer
- Keep yourself Pure so you can be used by the Master
- Love God the Most to live life the Best
- Preach the Word of God

1. The Cost of Community

Read 2 Timothy 4:9-16 (NKJV)

Paul begins by asking Timothy to come to him quickly because he had been greatly abandoned by many. He mentions how Demas has forsaken him because he loved this present world.

Let it not be said of your life that for your love of this present world you have departed in any way from the will of God for your life. It's just not worth it. What in your life could be pulling you away from the Lord's will for your life? Get rid of that thing, it's not worth having it in your life!

In Mark 8:34-36, Jesus said, "When He had called the people to Himself, with His disciples also, He said to them, "Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul?"

Because of his deep sense of abandonment, Paul asked Timothy, who was in Ephesus, to come to him quickly! Where were the believers and co-workers that were in Rome at this time? Why is Paul having to ask Timothy who was 1600km away by sea or 2900km if he were to travel by land?

It's because the risk of persecution or dying for the gospel was so high.

Paul gave up a great deal for the gospel of Christ so he could preach to the Gentiles.

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The cost of community is real.

- It's costly because it requires intimacy.
- It's risky because it requires vulnerability to have intimacy.
- And Community requires pain from time to time. It's painful when people you love walk away.

But what Paul knew is that community is worth fighting for. And community is about what you can give not just what you can get.

In the early church there was a church in the major cities. There weren't many churches in each city. So, when the people had disagreements they needed to resolve things together. They fought for community, even when it was messy.

Paul gives us an example of investing in others, over and over again. He demonstrated vulnerability in how he wrote his letters. Just in this passage he mentions 15 names in 11 verses.

- 4 of them had departed for one reason or another,
- 4 Paul left somewhere (1 of which was still needing healing)
- 1 had betrayed and opposed him.
- The other 6 names were mentioned in passing. But they were mentioned because they were still very important to him.

Paul prayed for the churches and prayed for them often. He loved the people who he prayed for.

Read 2 Timothy 4:11 Paul said, "Only Luke is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, for he is useful to me for ministry."

There was a disagreement between Barnabas and Paul concerning Mark's usefulness to ministry. Mark was related to Barnabas. But here at the end of Paul's life he is making restitution.

It's amazing how we, at the end of our lives, can see things more clearly. But let us not wait for the end to bring restoration to matters.

2. The Lord is Faithful

Read 2 Timothy 4:16-18 (NKJV)

We need to forgive people who have hurt us or abandoned us. Turn our focus on the Lord who will never leave us or forsake us. Sometimes we put too much emphasis on who is around us and supporting us, rather than focusing on the Lord in who we can have hope.

Paul testifies how the Lord delivered him from the mouth of lions and how the Lord had stood with him and strengthened him, so that he could fulfil his mission to reach the Gentiles with the Good News. Paul was so confident in the Lord that he praised him, knowing that he would soon receive the crown of righteousness.

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At the beginning of 2nd Timothy, Paul affirms Timothy as his beloved son and prays for grace and mercy and peace. At the end of 2nd Timothy Paul tells Timothy to fulfil the charge given to him. Paul the mentor was telling Timothy to keep on keeping on!

- Preach
- Endure hardship
- Evangelise
- Fight the good fight!
- Finish the race!

2 Corinthians 6:2 (NKJV), "For He says: "In an acceptable time I have heard you, and in the day of salvation I have helped you. Behold, now *is* the accepted time; behold, now *is* the day of salvation."

Sometimes people will say you're too young to do this that or the other thing, and other times people will say you are too old to do those same things.

Let me tell you what the right time is. NOW. So, start moving in the direction you know the Lord is calling you to. The Lord directs our paths and the perfect age to do anything is when the Lord says so.

There may be times where you feel hidden but know that the Lord is equipping and preparing you during those times.

3. The Spirit Compels me to.

Paul was born around AD 5 in Tarsus, a significant city in the Roman province of Cilicia (modern-day Turkey). Known for its vibrant intellectual culture and as a center of trade and learning. Paul was born into a devout Jewish family of the tribe of Benjamin and was a Roman citizen. This status provided significant privileges including legal protections and freedom of movement throughout the Roman Empire.

The Lord prepares every detail in your life!

Paul's dramatic conversion occurred around AD 34, and it is described in Acts 9. This Divine encounter with God saved Paul from himself and saved God's people from Paul's actions.

This moment changed his life. From that moment on Paul was compelled to preach the Gospel. 1 Corinthians 9:16 (NKJV), "For if I preach the gospel, I have nothing to boast of, for necessity is laid upon me; yes, woe is me if I do not preach the gospel!"

Paul embarked on three main missionary journeys over about a decade. He went to 41 unique cities, 12 cities revisited multiple times, he wrote 13 books in the New Testament (14 if Hebrews added), 7 written under some sort of imprisonment, 6 while on missionary journeys.



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Paul was willing to give up his social and religious status, security and comfort, freedom and safety, physical well-being, personal relationships.

Paul's life became a testament to the transformative power of God's grace and the ultimate worth of Christ. And He was saying to Timothy, do the same! BE ALL IN!

May we be compelled to seek the Lord with all we are, to preach the gospel, to heal the sick, to make disciples of all nations and baptise them in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, to go where I would not go out of my own, to love on those we would not love were it not for God.

May we be compelled to step up in our calling in business, ministry, evangelism, and to live to see people have an encounter with God no matter the cost.

That's why Paul could say:

Acts 20:24

"I consider my life worth nothing to me, if only I may finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me -- the task of testifying to the gospel of God's grace."

Philippians 1:21 (NKJV)

"For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain."



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