



### WEEK 3

#### Pillar #1 - The Word

As the last recorded letter from the Apostle Paul, Second Timothy takes on a deeply personal tone as he addresses his young protégé. Confined once more to prison and facing imminent death, Paul writes to Timothy, reminding him of the core principles of Christian ministry. Ultimately, Second Timothy is a powerful and urgent plea for steadfastness in the gospel despite suffering, and as the letter draws to a close, our passage sees Paul delivering what just might be his most forceful charge ever recorded.

### THE SCRIPTURE

#### 2 TIMOTHY 4:1-5

I charge<sup>5</sup> you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom: <sup>2</sup> preach<sup>6</sup> the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching. <sup>3</sup> For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, <sup>4</sup> and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths. <sup>5</sup> As for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

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<sup>5</sup> **charge** – the specific word utilized here by Paul conveys an exhortation of utmost importance. In secular literature of the day, this same word was used in calling gods and deities to witness.

<sup>6</sup> **preach** – literally, proclaim, or to make known.

**WE TEACH FROM THE AUTHORITY OF GOD'S WORD WITH ACCURACY AND  
COMPASSION, CENTERING UPON THE PERSON, WORK, AND  
GLORY OF JESUS.**

**LIFEGROUP QUESTIONS: WEEK 3**

**OPENING QUESTIONS**

1. When you write to a friend about something important, how do you make sure they understand how serious it is?
2. Can you describe a time in your life that you disregarded a solemn warning? What was the consequence(s)?

**DIVING DEEPER**

3. In verse 1, Paul mentions three aspects of Christ's work, both present and future that each speak to his power and position. Taking the phrases he uses, complete the sentence on the right for each.

Jesus is...

*"to judge the living and the dead"* \_\_\_\_\_

*"his appearing"* \_\_\_\_\_

*"his kingdom"* \_\_\_\_\_

4. What about the language of verse 1 would make Paul's charge so powerful and significant for Timothy?
5. Does verse 2 apply solely to specific types of Christians or to Timothy alone? What evidence suggests it's a broader command for all believers?

6. Paul emphasizes the importance of specific actions when declaring the Word of God. Explain in your own words the key words and phrases he uses.

We are to preach the Word... ...in season and out of season	What does this mean?
...by reproof	
...by rebuking	
...by exhorting	
...with patience	
...with teaching	

7. Why is it necessary to preach the Word of God both in favorable and unfavorable circumstances? Based on this passage, what should always be the primary goal of proclaiming God's Word?
8. In verses 3 and 4, Paul warns of a time when people will stray from sound teachings. How do you see this happening in today's world? What specific types of teachings are people drawn to these days?
9. According to these verses, what is the ultimate reason why people stray from the truth of God's Word?
10. Are there any sound doctrines that you find challenging to accept and apply to your own life?
11. Are there areas in your life where you feel yourself drifting away from what you know is true, as if you are being drawn into "myths"? What specific steps can you take to stop this wandering?