

IN &
OUT®

2 Timothy

A STUDY IN
DISCIPLESHIP

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2 TIMOTHY
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Overview

God tells us to hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, to consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, and to encourage one another . . . even more so as we see the day approaching (Hebrews 10:23-25).

We need to learn how to do these things and then put them into practice that those with a sincere faith might “fulfill the ministry” God has for them, that they might “suffer hardship” for the gospel, that they might “compete according to the rules,” that they might not “be quarrelsome, but be kind to all.”

TAKING IT IN

This Bible study begins with finding out what the Bible itself says. However, all the good study habits and methods in the world will mean very little to the student of God’s Word apart from the revelation of the Holy Spirit. Before Jesus went to Calvary, He assured His disciples that He would send them another Helper like Himself and that when the Spirit came to indwell them, He would become their resident teacher, leading them and guiding them into truth. Therefore, Beloved, always begin your Bible study seeking the Spirit’s leadership as you delve into the pure Word of God.

1. The purpose of this first lesson, the Overview, is to discover the context of 2 Timothy. Never isolate one verse or portion of the book from the whole.

Since 2 Timothy is a letter, the place to begin your study is to identify and evaluate the facts about the author.

- a. To do this, read 2 Timothy and mark with a specific color or colored symbol each mention of the author’s name and the pronouns, such as *I*, *me*, *my*.
- b. Use the Observation Worksheets of 2 Timothy, located in the Appendix, for every assignment. They contain the text of 2 Timothy from the New

American Standard Bible® double-spaced. Later you might want to transfer some of your study notes to your Bible.¹

- c. Read 2 Timothy again. Look at each place you marked the author. Then list what you learn about him on the “Author” page at the end of this lesson. You do not need to list Paul’s commands to Timothy
 - d. Now look at the chart in the Appendix, “Sequence of Events in Paul’s Life after His Conversion” and note below the year Paul wrote 2 Timothy.
 - e. According to 2 Timothy 2:8-9, where was Paul when he wrote his last letter to Timothy, and why was he there? This is part of the historical setting for the letter.
2. Now let’s look at who this letter was written to.
- a. Using the Observation Worksheets, read 2 Timothy again. Choose a different color from the one you used for the author, and mark each mention of the recipient’s name and the pronouns that refer specifically to him, such as *you, your*.
 - b. Go back through 2 Timothy, looking at each place you marked the recipient. List what you learn about him on the “Recipient” page at the end of this lesson. Again, you do not need to list the commands.
3. We observed that Paul was in prison because of the gospel and that he wanted Timothy to join him in suffering for the gospel.
- a. Now, let’s return to reading all of 2 Timothy. This time mark:
 - 1) *gospel, * word of God* and other synonyms
 - 2) *suffering, * persecution*
- An asterisk [*] indicates a word with a suggested marking on the back cover of this workbook.

¹ *The New Inductive Study Bible* is ideal for this. It is the best study Bible on the market because it doesn’t tell you what the text means. Rather, it gives you instruction for studying each book of the Bible.

- b. List the information you learn from marking these key repeated words on the page “Gospel and Suffering” at the end of this lesson.
 4. Close to the end of his life, Paul wrote this letter to Timothy, telling him what was most important at that point. We observed that the letter is about the gospel, God’s Word and the suffering it brings.
 - a. Read 2 Timothy again and underline the commands Paul gave Timothy.
 - b. What subject are most of the commands about? Look at the key words you marked.
 - c. Let’s look more at the historical setting.
 - 1) Read 2 Timothy to see what’s said about other people in this letter.
 - 2) Now, who and what did Paul warn Timothy about?
 5. We have observed who wrote 2 Timothy, who he wrote it to, when, and what it’s about. Considering what you learned from key words, commands, and the historical setting, why do you think Paul wrote 2 Timothy?
 6. Now let’s work on the “2 Timothy at a Glance” chart found in the Appendix. We’ll complete it as we go through the course. The “At a Glance” chart provides a compact visual summary of the book that you can return to again and again for easy reference.

You might want to use a pencil so you can make changes later if needed.

- a. Fill in the author, date, key words, and historical setting.

- b. In a letter, the book theme summarizes the main message of the book. What was the main point Paul wanted to communicate to Timothy? Using words from the text, record the theme of this letter.
- c. The purpose is why the letter was written. Fill in this space also.
- d. The chapter themes will be filled in as we study each chapter in more depth.

**LIVING
IT OUT**

- 1. Now, let's think about applying what you have observed. Are there things in Paul's life that you desire to be true in your life? If so, list them below. Then take this list to the Father and ask Him to show you how to incorporate these godly traits into your life. God's desire, His goal for you is that you are conformed into the image of His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

2. Do you think the commands in this letter were only for Timothy, or are they for all believers? Why do you think that way? Are there any God has impressed on your heart?

We so rejoice over you and your diligence in completing this lesson. It has required discipline and time. God is God and His Word is absolute truth, the very bread, as it says, by which we live. Isn't a study like this worthy of our time and discipline? Of course! Remember what God says through Paul in 2 Timothy 2:15 and press on, valiant soldier!

AUTHOR

RECIPIENT

Gospel / Word of God

Suffering / Persecution

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Gospel / Word of God

Suffering / Persecution

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2 TIMOTHY 1

Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme _____

PAUL, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, according to the promise of life in Christ Jesus,

- 2 To Timothy, my beloved son: Grace, mercy *and* peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.
- 3 I thank God, whom I serve with a clear conscience the way my forefathers did, as I constantly remember you in my prayers night and day,
- 4 longing to see you, even as I recall your tears, so that I may be filled with joy.
- 5 For I am mindful of the sincere faith within you, which first dwelt in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am sure that *it is* in you as well.
- 6 For this reason I remind you to kindle afresh the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands.
- 7 For God has not given us a spirit of timidity, but of power and love and discipline.
- 8 Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord or of me His prisoner, but join with *me* in suffering for the gospel according to the power of God,
- 9 who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was granted us in Christ Jesus from all eternity,

-
- 10 but now has been revealed by the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus,
who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through
the gospel,
- 11 for which I was appointed a preacher and an apostle and a teacher.
- 12 For this reason I also suffer these things, but I am not ashamed; for I
know whom I have believed and I am convinced that He is able to
guard what I have entrusted to Him until that day.
- 13 Retain the standard of sound words which you have heard from me, in
the faith and love which are in Christ Jesus.
- 14 Guard, through the Holy Spirit who dwells in us, the treasure which has
been entrusted to *you*.
- 15 You are aware of the fact that all who are in Asia turned away from me,
among whom are Phygelus and Hermogenes.
- 16 The Lord grant mercy to the house of Onesiphorus, for he often
refreshed me and was not ashamed of my chains;
- 17 but when he was in Rome, he eagerly searched for me and found me—
- 18 the Lord grant to him to find mercy from the Lord on that day—and
you know very well what services he rendered at Ephesus.

2 TIMOTHY 2

Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme _____

YOU therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.

- 2 The things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, entrust these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.
- 3 Suffer hardship with *me*, as a good soldier of Christ Jesus.
- 4 No soldier in active service entangles himself in the affairs of everyday life, so that he may please the one who enlisted him as a soldier.
- 5 Also if anyone competes as an athlete, he does not win the prize unless he competes according to the rules.
- 6 The hard-working farmer ought to be the first to receive his share of the crops.
- 7 Consider what I say, for the Lord will give you understanding in everything.
- 8 Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, descendant of David, according to my gospel,
- 9 for which I suffer hardship even to imprisonment as a criminal; but the word of God is not imprisoned.
- 10 For this reason I endure all things for the sake of those who are chosen, so that they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus *and* with *it* eternal glory.
- 11 It is a trustworthy statement:
For if we died with Him, we will also live with Him;
- 12 If we endure, we will also reign with Him;
If we deny Him, He also will deny us;
- 13 If we are faithless, He remains faithful, for He cannot deny Himself.

- 14 Remind *them* of these things, and solemnly charge *them* in the presence of God not to wrangle about words, which is useless *and leads* to the ruin of the hearers.
- 15 Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth.
- 16 But avoid worldly *and* empty chatter, for it will lead to further ungodliness,
- 17 and their talk will spread like gangrene. Among them are Hymenaeus and Philetus,
- 18 *men* who have gone astray from the truth saying that the resurrection has already taken place, and they upset the faith of some.
- 19 Nevertheless, the firm foundation of God stands, having this seal, “The Lord knows those who are His,” and, “Everyone who names the name of the Lord is to abstain from wickedness.”
- 20 Now in a large house there are not only gold and silver vessels, but also vessels of wood and of earthenware, and some to honor and some to dishonor.
- 21 Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from these *things*, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified, useful to the Master, prepared for every good work.
- 22 Now flee from youthful lusts and pursue righteousness, faith, love *and* peace, with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart.
- 23 But refuse foolish and ignorant speculations, knowing that they produce quarrels.
- 24 The Lord’s bond-servant must not be quarrelsome, but be kind to all, able to teach, patient when wronged,
- 25 with gentleness correcting those who are in opposition, if perhaps God may grant them repentance leading to the knowledge of the truth,
- 26 and they may come to their senses *and escape* from the snare of the devil, having been held captive by him to do his will.

2 TIMOTHY 3

Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme _____

BUT realize this, that in the last days difficult times will come.

- 2 For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy,
- 3 unloving, irreconcilable, malicious gossips, without self-control, brutal, haters of good,
- 4 treacherous, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God,
- 5 holding to a form of godliness, although they have denied its power; Avoid such men as these.
- 6 For among them are those who enter into households and captivate weak women weighed down with sins, led on by various impulses,
- 7 always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.
- 8 Just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, so these *men* also oppose the truth, men of depraved mind, rejected in regard to the faith.
- 9 But they will not make further progress; for their folly will be obvious to all, just as Jannes's and Jambres's folly was also.
- 10** Now you followed my teaching, conduct, purpose, faith, patience, love, perseverance,
- 11 persecutions, *and* sufferings, such as happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium *and* at Lystra; what persecutions I endured, and out of them all the Lord rescued me!
- 12 Indeed, all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.
- 13 But evil men and impostors will proceed *from bad* to worse, deceiving and being deceived.

- 14 You, however, continue in the things you have learned and become convinced of, knowing from whom you have learned *them*,
- 15 and that from childhood you have known the sacred writings which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.
- 16 All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness;
- 17 so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.

2 TIMOTHY 4

Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme _____

- 1 I solemnly charge *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:
- 2 preach the word; be ready in season *and* out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction.
- 3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but *wanting* to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires,
- 4 and will turn away their ears from the truth and will turn aside to myths.
- 5 But you, be sober in all things, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.
- 6 For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come.
- 7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith;
- 8 in the future there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all who have loved His appearing.
- 9 Make every effort to come to me soon;
- 10 for Demas, having loved this present world, has deserted me and gone to Thessalonica; Crescens *has gone* to Galatia, Titus to Dalmatia.
- 11 Only Luke is with me. Pick up Mark and bring him with you, for he is useful to me for service.
- 12 But Tychicus I have sent to Ephesus.

-
- 13 When you come bring the cloak which I left at Troas with Carpus, and the books, especially the parchments.
- 14 Alexander the coppersmith did me much harm; the Lord will repay him according to his deeds.
- 15 Be on guard against him yourself, for he vigorously opposed our teaching.
- 16 At my first defense no one supported me, but all deserted me; may it not be counted against them.
- 17 But the Lord stood with me and strengthened me, so that through me the proclamation might be fully accomplished, and that all the Gentiles might hear; and I was rescued out of the lion's mouth.
- 18 The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed, and will bring me safely to His heavenly kingdom; to Him *be* the glory forever and ever. Amen.
- 19 Greet Prisca and Aquila, and the household of Onesiphorus.
- 20 Erastus remained at Corinth, but Trophimus I left sick at Miletus.
- 21 Make every effort to come before winter. Eubulus greets you, also Pudens and Linus and Claudia and all the brethren.
- 22 The Lord be with your spirit. Grace be with you.

2 TIMOTHY AT A GLANCE

Book Theme:

Chapter Theme:

Author:

1

Date:

2

Key Words:

3

Purpose:

4

**Historical
Setting:**

SEQUENCE OF EVENTS IN PAUL'S LIFE AFTER HIS CONVERSION*

* There are differing opinions on these dates. For consistency this chart will be the basis for dates pertaining to Paul's life.

Scripture	Year A.D.	Event
Acts 9:1-25	33-34	Conversion, time in Damascus
	35-47	Some silent years, except we know that Paul:
Galatians 1:17		1. Spent time in Arabia and Damascus
Acts 9:26; Galatians 1:18		2. Made first visit to Jerusalem
Acts 9:30-11:26; Galatians 1:21		3. Went to Tarsus, Syria-Cilicia area
Acts 11:26		4. Was with Barnabas in Antioch
Acts 11:27-30		5. With Barnabas took relief to brethren in Judea; Paul's second visit to Jerusalem
Acts 12:23	44	Herod Agrippa I dies
Acts 12:25-13:3		6. Returned to Antioch; was sent out with Barnabas by church at Antioch
Acts 13:4-14:26	47-48	First missionary journey: <i>Galatians</i> written (?) Proconsul Sergius Paulus at Paphos
Acts 15:1-35	49	Apostolic Council at Jerusalem—Paul visits Jerusalem <i>Galatians</i> written (?)
Acts 15:36-18:22	49-51	Second missionary journey: <i>1 and 2 Thessalonians</i> written— 1½ years in Corinth, Acts 18:11
	51-52	Gallio known to be proconsul in Corinth
Acts 18:23-21:17	52-56	Third missionary journey: <i>1 and 2 Corinthians and Romans</i> written— 1 Cor. from Ephesus, 2 Cor. from Macedonia, Romans from Corinth
Acts 21:17-23:35	56	Paul goes to Jerusalem and is arrested; held in Caesarea
Acts 24-26	57-59	Appearance before Felix and Drusilla; before Festus—appeals to Caesar; before Agrippa
Acts 27-28:15	59-60	Paul goes from Caesarea to Rome
Acts 28:16-31	60-62	First Roman imprisonment: <i>Ephesians, Philemon, Colossians, and Philippians</i> written—2 years in prison
	62	Paul's release; possible trip to Spain
	62	Paul in Macedonia: <i>1 Timothy</i> written
	62	Paul goes to Crete <i>Titus</i> written
	63-64	Paul taken to Rome and imprisoned: <i>2 Timothy</i> written
	64	Paul is absent from the body and present with the Lord (Others put Paul's conversion about A.D. 35, his death at A.D. 68.)

14 years, Galatians 2:1

3 years

