



IN
OUT®

English Standard Version

2 Timothy

A STUDY IN
DISCIPLESHIP

IN & OUT[®]

English Standard Version

2 TIMOTHY
A STUDY IN DISCIPLESHIP

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Overview

“Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the day drawing near.” (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 “share in suffering” for the gospel, that they might “compete according to the rules,” that they might not “be quarrelsome but kind to everyone.”

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 English



Standard Version® 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 share 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 the life that is in Christ Jesus,

2 To Timothy, my beloved child:

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

3 I thank God whom I serve, as did my ancestors, with a clear conscience, as I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day.

4 As I remember your tears, I long to see you, that I may be filled with joy.

5 I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, dwells in you as well.

6 For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands,

7 for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.

8 Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord, nor of me his prisoner, but share in suffering for the gospel by the power of God,

9 who saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of his own purpose and grace, which he gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began,

10 and which now has been manifested through 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 apostle and teacher,



- 12 which is why I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed, and I am convinced that he is able to guard until that Day what has been entrusted to me.
- 13 Follow the pattern of the sound words that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.
- 14 By the Holy Spirit who dwells within us, guard the good deposit entrusted to you.
- 15** You are aware that all who are in Asia turned away from me, among whom are Phygelus and Hermogenes.
- 16 May the Lord grant mercy to the household of Onesiphorus, for he often refreshed me and was not ashamed of my chains,
- 17 but when he arrived in Rome he searched for me earnestly and found me—
- 18 may the Lord grant him to find mercy from the Lord on that Day!—and you well know all the service he rendered at Ephesus.



2 TIMOTHY 2

Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme _____

- YOU** then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus,
- 2 and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.
 - 3 Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus.
 - 4 No soldier gets entangled in civilian pursuits, since his aim is to please the one who enlisted him.
 - 5 An athlete is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules.
 - 6 It is the hard-working farmer who ought to have the first share of the crops.
 - 7 Think over what I say, for the Lord will give you understanding in everything.
 - 8 Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, the offspring of David, as preached in my gospel,
 - 9 for which I am suffering, bound with chains as a criminal. But the word of God is not bound!
 - 10 Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.
 - 11 The saying is trustworthy, for:
 - 12 If we have 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 charge them before God not to quarrel about words, which does no good, but only ruins the hearers.



- 15 Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth.
- 16 But avoid irreverent babble, for it will lead people into more and more ungodliness,
- 17 and their talk will spread like gangrene. Among them are Hymenaeus and Philetus,
- 18 who have swerved from the truth, saying that the resurrection has already happened. They are upsetting the faith of some.
- 19 But God's firm foundation stands, bearing this seal: "The Lord knows those who are his," and, "Let everyone who names the name of the Lord depart from iniquity."
- 20** Now in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver but also of wood and clay, some for honorable use, some for dishonorable.
- 21 Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from what is dishonorable, he will be a vessel for honorable use, set apart as holy, useful to the master of the house, ready for every good work.
- 22** So flee youthful passions and pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace, along with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart.
- 23 Have nothing to do with foolish, ignorant controversies; you know that they breed quarrels.
- 24 And the Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but kind to everyone, able to teach, patiently enduring evil,
- 25 correcting his opponents with gentleness. God may perhaps grant them repentance leading to a knowledge of the truth,
- 26 and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, after being captured by him to do his will.



2 TIMOTHY 3

Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme _____

BUT understand this, that in the last days there will come times of difficulty.

- 2 For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy,
- 3 heartless, unappeasable, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not loving good,
- 4 treacherous, reckless, swollen with conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God,
- 5 having the appearance of godliness, but denying its power. Avoid such people.
- 6 For among them are those who creep into households and capture weak women, burdened with sins and led astray by various passions,
- 7 always learning and never able to arrive at a knowledge of the truth.
- 8 Just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, so these men also oppose the truth, men corrupted in mind and disqualified regarding the faith.
- 9 But they will not get very far, for their folly will be plain to all, as was that of those two men.
- 10** You, however, have followed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness,
- 11 my persecutions and sufferings that happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, and at Lystra—which persecutions I endured; yet from them all the Lord rescued me.
- 12 Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted,
- 13 while evil people and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived.



- 14 But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it
- 15 and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.
- 16 All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness,
- 17 that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.



2 TIMOTHY 4

Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme _____

- I 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, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching.
 - 3 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,
 - 4 and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths.
 - 5 As for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, 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 race, I have kept the faith.
 - 8 Henceforth 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 Do your best to come to me soon.
 - 10 For Demas, in love with this present world, has deserted me and gone to Thessalonica. Crescens has gone to Galatia, Titus to Dalmatia.
 - 11 Luke alone is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, for he is very useful to me for ministry.
 - 12 Tychicus I have sent to Ephesus.
 - 13 When you come, bring the cloak that I left with Carpus at Troas, also the books, and above all the parchments.



- 14 Alexander the coppersmith did me great harm; the Lord will repay him according to his deeds.
- 15 Beware of him yourself, for he strongly opposed our message.
- 16 At my first defense no one came to stand by me, but all deserted me. May it not be charged against them!
- 17 But the Lord stood by me and strengthened me, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth.
- 18 The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed and bring me safely into 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, and I left Trophimus, who was ill, at Miletus.
- 21 Do your best to come before winter. Eubulus sends greetings to you, as do Pudens and Linus and Claudia and all the brothers.
- 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

