

ENTER-
USTED
2 TIMOTHY
WITH
THE GOSPEL

ENTRUSTED WITH THE GOSPEL

INTRODUCTION

READ THE BIBLE IN 2 YEARS

DAILY READING NOTES: Entrusted with the Gospel - 2 Timothy

Week	Passage	Theme
1	Acts 9:1-22	God's Purpose for Paul's Life
2	2 Timothy 1:1-5	Introduction: Paul and Timothy
3	2 Timothy 1:6-14	Guarding the Good Deposit of the Gospel
4	2 Timothy 1:15-18	The Importance of Gospel Partnership
5	2 Timothy 2:1-13	Entrusting the Gospel to Others
6	2 Timothy 2:14-26	Teach, Defend and Live the Gospel
7	2 Timothy 3:1-9	Future Challenges to the Gospel
8	2 Timothy 3:10-17	Confidence in God's Gospel Word
9	2 Timothy 4:1-8	The Gospel Charge
10	2 Timothy 4:9-22	Gospel Confidence and the Reality of Life

We want to encourage each other to be on mission to our non-Christian friends, family and contacts.

Who are you on mission to?

Make a list and start praying for them (and yourself).

Pray for three friends, once a week, for one minute (3-1-1).

List the names of your family and friends here:

2 TIMOTHY: TERM 2 - 2017

How to use this book:

1. PERSONAL READING

- Use this guide to help you read your Bible every day.
- Scribble down your thoughts and questions each day, and remember to pray and ask God to speak to you by His Spirit, through His Word.

2. GROWTH GROUPS

- Take this guide with you to your Growth Group each week so you can write down prayer points that come from the study that week and prayer requests from the members of your group.
- Let your group know who you are on mission to.

3. CHURCH

- Keep this guide with your Bible and bring it with you to church.
- Scribble down sermon notes in the space provided.

SUGGESTED READING

“The Gospel for Real Life” by Jerry Bridges

What difference does the gospel make?

The gospel of Jesus Christ is the door to eternal life, but what difference does it make once we’re inside God’s kingdom? Jerry Bridges says the gospel is the very lifeblood of our walk with God. It is the key to our salvation, for sure, but it is also the power for our daily progress in holiness.

The Gospel for Real Life will help you:

- Experience freedom from the grip of sin and know the joy of pursuing holiness;
- Revel in God’s acceptance of you and participate in His grace as a daily reality;
- Expose the subtle acids of legalism in your life and enjoy the liberty of the cross;
- Discover how to “preach the gospel to yourself daily” and so partake of its continuous transforming power; and
- Carry the true fullness of the gospel to a desperately needy world around you.

This edition includes a study guide to help you experience every day “the unsearchable riches of Christ” that are available to us in the gospel.

INTRODUCTION

ENTRUSTED WITH THE GOSPEL: 2 TIMOTHY

This term we are reading the final letter of the Apostle Paul, one written from his last imprisonment in Rome. In this letter, Paul describes his life on earth as “finished”. After writing his first letter to Timothy, Paul was arrested again in Greece or Asia Minor, but this time as a criminal (2:6). His arrest was sudden and unexpected (4:13). While waiting for the time of his departure (4:6), he wrote this last letter to his beloved son in the gospel, Timothy.

This imprisonment was very different from his first. At the end of Acts, we read that Paul rented a room in Rome where he continued to minister freely, surrounded by friends, albeit under house arrest. This time he was kept in close confinement, alone (4:10-12) and expecting to die (4:6). He had already appeared before the wicked Emperor Nero, but his case had been postponed (4:16-17). He expected to reappear again in the winter and wrote urging Timothy to come to him, to bring with him Mark and his belongings (4:9, 11, 13, 21). Being uncertain whether Timothy would make it in time, Paul writes this second and final letter to Timothy offering his last words of warning and encouragement.

This letter is very personal; Paul mentions 23 individuals by name. Although he was alone and facing death, his focus is not on himself or his circumstances; he forgot himself by thinking of others. The Bishop of Durham, Reverend Arthur Michael Ramsey (who would later become the Archbishop of Canterbury) said, “I have often found it difficult deliberately to read these short chapters through, without finding something like a mist gathering in my eyes. The writer’s heart beats in the writing”. It is worth pausing for a moment to remember that this is Paul’s last writing, the ink from his pen would be dried for the last time. This letter contains his gathered thoughts to a dear friend and son in the gospel. It’s hard not to feel moved by the gravity of his words in this letter.

The purpose of this letter is to call young Timothy to clear-minded perseverance in the gospel. He is to fight the good fight of the faith until the end, despite facing the impending death of his close friend, mentor, and father in the faith. Timothy has been entrusted with the gospel so that he would entrust it to others.

Some of the key things Paul wants Timothy (and us) to know include:

1. Suffering is a normal part of the Christian life (1:8 and 12; 2:3 and 9; 3:11-12; 4:5 and 14-18).
2. Christians should respond to suffering by faithfully persevering in dependence on God's power (1:8; 2:1 and 11-13; 4:1-8).
3. Christians are able to endure because of the gospel (1:9-11; 2:8-10).
4. The Scriptures have power to save and preserve (2:15, 3:15-17; 4:1-2).
5. A Christian's perseverance will reveal whether they truly belong to Jesus (2:11-13 and 19; 3:14; 4:7 and 10)
6. False teaching is evil and deadly, it must be dealt with swiftly and firmly (2:16-18 and 23-26; 3:1-9; 4:3-5).

The series title this term is 'Entrusted with the Gospel'. Like Jesus to Paul, then Paul to Timothy, and then through the countless others throughout the ages we too are now entrusted with the gospel. We too need to stand firm, fight the good fight of the faith and persevere in the gospel despite suffering or persecution. We can do all of this because of God's power and the confidence we can have in His gospel Word.

SIGN UP FOR THESE NOTES AS A DAILY EMAIL AT:
www.evchurch.info/series

GIVING AT EV CHURCH

The New Testament teaches us to give generously, regularly and joyfully. Please join with us in bringing to the coast solid hope in Jesus.

More info on giving and account details:
www.evchurch.info/giving

READ THE BIBLE IN TWO YEARS

Something you might like to use to extend your daily Bible reading.

The Bible is truly an extraordinary book, unique among all other books. It consists of 66 individual books, written by 40 different authors, in three different languages across 1,500 years of history. Yet for all of this diversity it contains a unified message that focuses on the coming of Jesus and the amazing salvation He offers through His death and resurrection!

The Bible contains words written by men in all the richness of literary types making it fun, challenging and enjoyable to dig into. Yet, at the same time, the Bible is also the very words of God given to us by His Spirit (1 Peter 1:21; 2 Timothy 3:16-17). These are not just words spoken in times past, but words that are alive for us to read today (Hebrews 4:12-13). The God of the universe actually addresses us today clearly in the pages of the Bible - amazing!

Jesus says the entire Bible points us to Him, that He is the focal point of it all. Listen to what He says, "He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms." (Luke 24:44). Or, again Jesus says, "You study the Scriptures diligently because you think that in them you have eternal life. These are the very Scriptures that testify about me, yet you refuse to come to me to have life." (John 5:39-40).

Knowing this is helpful in motivating us to read the Bible regularly, to keep building a bigger understanding of God's purposes and how they are being fulfilled in Jesus. To help with this, the Daily Reading Notes now include an extra challenge: to read the whole Bible in two years. It's totally optional, are you up for it?

There is a list of around 15 chapters of additional reading for each week of the term that will help you achieve this challenge. These readings can be done on whatever days work best and in whatever order you prefer to read them. At the end of each term you have a chance to catch up before the next term's suggested readings begin again. You can also track your readings across the two years right here. Enjoy!

YEAR 1: TERM 1

Week 1	Genesis 1-5; Psalms 1-4; Genesis 5-10; Matthew 1-2	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 2	Genesis 11-15; Psalms 5-7; Genesis 16-20; Matthew 3-4	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 3	Genesis 21-25; Psalms 8-10; Genesis 26-30; Matthew 5-6	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 4	Genesis 31-35; Psalms 11-16; Genesis 36-40; Matthew 7-9	<input type="checkbox"/>

Week 5	Genesis 41-45; Psalms 17-19; Genesis 46-50; Matthew 10-11	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 6	Exodus 1-5; Psalms 20-24; Exodus 6-10; Matthew 12-13	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 7	Exodus 11-15; Psalms 25-27; Exodus 16-20; Matthew 14-15	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 8	Exodus 21-25; Psalms 28-31; Exodus 26-30; Matthew 16-17	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 9	Exodus 31-35; Psalms 32-34; Exodus 36-40; Matthew 18-19	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 10	Leviticus 1-5; Psalms 35-37; Leviticus 6-10; Matthew 20-21	<input type="checkbox"/>

YEAR 1: TERM 2

Week 1	Leviticus 11-15; Psalms 38-41; Leviticus 16-20; Matthew 22-24	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 2	Leviticus 21-27; Numbers 1-3; Proverbs 1-3; Matthew 25-26	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 3	Numbers 4-13; Proverbs 4-6; Matthew 27-28	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 4	Numbers 14-23; Proverbs 7-9; Acts 1-2	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 5	Numbers 24-33; Psalms 42-44; Acts 3-4	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 6	Numbers 34-36; Psalms 45-48; Acts 5-6	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 7	Deuteronomy 1-7; Psalms 49-51; Acts 7-8	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 8	Deuteronomy 8-17; Psalms 52-54; Acts 9-10	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 9	Deuteronomy 18-27; Psalms 55-57; Acts 11-12	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 10	Deuteronomy 28-34; Joshua 1-3; Psalms 58-61; Acts 13-14	<input type="checkbox"/>

YEAR 1: TERM 3

Week 1	Joshua 4-13; Psalms 62-65; Acts 15-16	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 2	Joshua 14-23; Psalms 66-68; Acts 17-18	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 3	Joshua 24; Judges 1-9; Psalms 69-71; Acts 19-20	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 4	Judges 10-19; Psalms 72; Proverbs 10-11; Acts 21-22	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 5	Judges 20-21; Ruth 1-4; 1 Samuel 1-4; Proverbs 12-14; Acts 23-24	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 6	1 Samuel 5-14; Proverbs 15-17; Acts 25-26	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 7	1 Samuel 15-24; Proverbs 18-20; Acts 27-28	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 8	1 Samuel 25-31; 2 Samuel 1-3; Proverbs 21-22; Mark 1-2	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 9	2 Samuel 4-13; Psalms 73-75; Mark 3-4	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 10	2 Samuel 14-24; Psalms 76-77; Mark 5-6	<input type="checkbox"/>

READ THE BIBLE IN TWO YEARS

YEAR 1: TERM 4

Week 1	1 Kings 1-5; Psalms 78-80; 1 Kings 6-10; Mark 7-8	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 2	1 Kings 11-15; Psalms 81-83; 1 Kings 16-20; Mark 9-10	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 3	1 Kings 21-22; 2 Kings 1-8; Psalms 84-86; Mark 11-12	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 4	2 Kings 9-13; Psalms 87-89; 2 Kings 14-18; Mark 13-14	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 5	2 Kings 19-25; 1 Chronicles 1-3; Psalms 90-93; Mark 15-16	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 6	1 Chronicles 4-8; Psalms 94-96; 1 Chronicles 9-13; Romans 1-2	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 7	1 Chronicles 14-18; Psalms 97-101; 1 Chronicles 19-23; Romans 3-4	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 8	1 Chronicles 24-29; Psalms 102-104; Romans 5-6	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 9	2 Chronicles 1-5; Psalms 105-106; 2 Chronicles 6-10; Romans 7-8	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 10	2 Chronicles 11-15; Proverbs 23-25; 2 Chronicles 16-20; Romans 9-10	<input type="checkbox"/>

YEAR 2: TERM 1

Week 1	2 Chronicles 21-25; Proverbs 26-28; 2 Chronicles 26-30; Romans 11-12	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 2	2 Chronicles 31-36; Ezra 1-4; Proverbs 29-31; Romans 13-14	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 3	Ezra 5-10; Nehemiah 1-4; Psalms 107-109; Romans 15-16	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 4	Nehemiah 5-13; Psalms 110-113; 1 Corinthians 1-2	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 5	Esther 1-10; Psalms 114-117; 1 Corinthians 3-4	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 6	Job 1-5; Psalms 118; Job 6-10; 1 Corinthians 5-6	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 7	Job 11-15; Psalms 119:1-48; Job 16-20; 1 Corinthians 7-8	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 8	Job 21-25; Psalms 119:49-96; Job 26-30; 1 Corinthians 9-10	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 9	Job 31-35; Psalms 119:97-144; Job 36-40; 1 Corinthians 11-12	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 10	Job 41-42; Ecclesiastes 1-8; Psalms 119:145-176; 1 Corinthians 13-14	<input type="checkbox"/>

YEAR 2: TERM 2

Week 1	Ecclesiastes 9-12; Song of Songs 1-5; Psalms 120-122; 1 Cor 15-16	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 2	Songs of Songs 6-8; Isaiah 1-7; Psalms 123-125; Luke 1-2	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 3	Isaiah 8-12; Psalms 126-130; Isaiah 13-17; Luke 3-4	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 4	Isaiah 18-22; Psalms 131-135; Isaiah 23-27; Luke 5-6	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 5	Isaiah 28-32; Psalms 136-138; Isaiah 33-37; Luke 7-8	<input type="checkbox"/>

Week 6	Isaiah 38-42; Psalms 139-142; Isaiah 43-47; Luke 9-10	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 7	Isaiah 48-52; Psalms 143-145; Isaiah 53-57; Luke 11-12	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 8	Isaiah 58-62; Psalms 146-147; Isaiah 63-66; Luke 13-14	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 9	Jeremiah 1-5; Psalms 148-150; Jeremiah 6-10; Luke 15-16	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 10	Jeremiah 11-15; Luke 17-21; Jeremiah 16-20	<input type="checkbox"/>

YEAR 2: TERM 3

Week 1	Jeremiah 21-25; Luke 21-24; Jeremiah 26-30; 2 Corinthians 1	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 2	Jeremiah 31-35; 2 Corinthians 2-7; Jeremiah 36-40	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 3	Jeremiah 41-45; 2 Corinthians 8-13; Jeremiah 46-50	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 4	Jeremiah 51-52; Lamentations 1-5; Galatians 1-6	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 5	Ezekiel 1-5; Ephesians 1-6; Ezekiel 6-10	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 6	Ezekiel 11-15; Philippians 1-4; Ezekiel 16-20	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 7	Ezekiel 21-25; Colossians 1-4; Ezekiel 26-30	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 8	Ezekiel 31-35; 1 Thessalonians 1-5; Ezekiel 36-40; 2 Thessalonians 1-3	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 9	Ezekiel 41-48; 1 Timothy 1-6; 2 Timothy 1-4	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 10	Daniel 1-10; Titus 1-3, Philemon	<input type="checkbox"/>

YEAR 2: TERM 4

Week 1	Daniel 11-12; Hosea 1-8; Hebrews 1-7	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 2	Hosea 9-14; Joel 1-3; Hebrews 8-13	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 3	Amos 1-9; James 1-5; 1 Peter 1-5	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 4	Obadiah; Jonah 1-4; 2 Peter 1-3; 1 John 1-6; 2 John; 3 John	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 5	Micah 1-7; Nahum 1-3; Jude; Revelation 1-5	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 6	Habakkuk 1-3; Revelation 6-19:10	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 7	Zephaniah 1-3; Revelation 19:11-22:21	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 8	Haggai 1-2; John 1-12	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 9	Zechariah 1-14; John 13-17	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 10	Malachi 1-4; John 18-21	<input type="checkbox"/>

WEEK 1: ACTS 9:1-22

DAY 1

Read Ezekiel 36:22-32

After centuries of Israel falling short of God's covenant, God finally brings judgment on His people. The northern 10 tribes were decimated by Assyria in 722BC. Despite this warning, the two remaining southern tribes still remained unfaithful and disobedient to God. So in 597BC, God sent Babylon to be His agent of judgment on them. Having been taken into captivity in Babylon, Israel was left a shattered people wondering whether God had abandoned them. Ezekiel was a prophet whom God used to speak to His people while in Babylon. Despite all that had happened, God made the most staggering promise to them.

1. What do we learn here about the depth of Israel's problem?
2. Where does their hope rest?
3. How do you react to this passage? Does it stir your affection, confidence and love for God? If we have too high a view of ourselves, we can find it hard to delight in the fact that God alone is the one who deserves the glory because we think we're actually pretty good ourselves. Self-love disables worship.

Prayer: Pray that God might help you see and own your sin, your utter helplessness before Him, and your need for His grace. Give thanks for His promise to do for us what we were powerless to do for ourselves, and for the hope of being made new.

GOD'S PURPOSE FOR PAUL'S LIFE

DAY 2

Read Isaiah 49:1-6

BIBLE IN 2 YEARS

Leviticus 11-15; Psalms 38-41;

Leviticus 16-20; Matthew 22-24

Isaiah was also a prophet whom God used to speak to His people leading up to the time of the Babylonian exile and beyond. Together with Ezekiel, God makes some truly staggering promises for His world.

1. What role is this servant to play in God's purposes?
2. What do we see here about God's heart for His world?
3. Together with Isaiah 53, we learn that this servant will accomplish his work through his sacrificial death by which he would bear the sins of many – extraordinary! The confidence we can have in God's plan to bring salvation and forgiveness is made certain because his own Son, God's servant, would lay down His life as a ransom for people of all nations. What impact ought this have on how we think about the world we live in? What sacrifices would you be willing to make to see the gospel go to the nations?

Prayer. Ask God to grow your heart for all the nations, ask Him to bring salvation to the world according to His promise.

WEEK 1: ACTS 9:1-22

DAY 3

Read Luke 24:36-53

1. What does Luke want us to know about God's promises through Ezekiel and Isaiah (and the rest of the Old Testament!)?
2. What role were Jesus' disciples to play in God's purposes?
3. How does all this impact the disciples? When was the last time you felt deeply moved by the good news of Jesus?

Prayer: Pray that God might deeply stir your heart to worship because of the good news of Jesus!

GOD'S PURPOSE FOR PAUL'S LIFE

DAY 4

Read Acts 9:1-19

If you're new to Bible reading, today we will read about a man named Saul, who is also called Paul (Acts 13:9). This is important to note as we get to the letter of 2 Timothy so you can join the dots...

1. How does Saul's experience on the Damascus road remind you of God's promise in Ezekiel 36 (see Day 1)?
2. What is God's unique purpose for Saul's life? How does this fit with what we read in Isaiah 49 (Day 2)?
3. The enormity of God's plan unfolding throughout history is an amazing thing to grasp. How does this help your confidence and trust in God?

Prayer. Ask God to grow your confidence in His purposes and your courage to engage with them.

WEEK 1: ACTS 9:1-22

DAY 5

Read 2 Corinthians 11:16-33 and 12:7-10

1. Here, Paul (Saul) was responding to people who had been criticizing him as unimpressive. They were consumed by wanting to boast about themselves and their own greatness. By contrast, what does Paul boast in?
2. In Acts 9, God told Paul what he must suffer for His name. To many of us, this is a confronting reality, not one we gladly put up our hands for and say, “awesome, pick me!”. Yet for Paul, to serve God at great personal cost, suffering, and in weakness was a gift, a great blessing. This is because there was something greater that he valued – what was it?

Once confronted by Jesus on the Damascus road, Paul's life radically changed. God, through Paul, fulfilled His promise to bring the gospel to the Gentiles in amazing ways. The vast majority of the New Testament contains letters by Paul to churches that came about because of his ministry either directly or indirectly. For example, Paul wrote Romans, 1 and 2 Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, 1 and 2 Thessalonians, 1 and 2 Timothy, Titus and Philemon. Paul's life confirms that suffering is 'par for the course' for the Christian, but God's power stands behind His Word so it can't be stopped, so we ought not fear. It really is cause for joy and thanksgiving, as well as a reality check for our own lives today.

Prayer: Pray that God might grow your love for Him, His Kingdom and His purposes beyond your fear of cost, suffering or hardship.

GOD'S PURPOSE FOR PAUL'S LIFE

NOTES AND PRAYER POINTS

WEEK 2: 2 TIMOTHY 1:1-5

Last week we looked at God's purposes in the world and how Paul was caught up in them. This week, we begin our time in 2 Timothy. This is the second letter Paul writes to Timothy, a young pastor with a massive task before him.

DAY 1

Read 2 Timothy 1:1-5

1. What do we pick up here about Paul's and Timothy's relationship?
2. Which Christian people has Timothy benefitted from? What role has Paul played for Timothy? (See also 1 Timothy 1:2)
3. This passage has a particularly encouraging message to Christian mothers and grandmothers, and the impact they can have in their families. It also shows the grace of God in giving young Christian men (without believing fathers) role models to follow and be shaped by. Are you making the most of your family relationships for Jesus? Do you make time for people in God's family who could really use your love, support, care and training?

Prayer: Ask God to help you make good use of your relationships (immediate family and beyond) to see people come to know and grow in their knowledge and love of Jesus.

INTRODUCTION: PAUL AND TIMOTHY

DAY 2

Read Acts 16:1-5

BIBLE IN 2 YEARS

Leviticus 21-27; Numbers 1-3;
Proverbs 1-3; Matthew 25-26

1. What more do we learn here about Paul's and Timothy's relationship?
2. It's helpful to notice the way Paul trains Timothy. While it applies generally that doing life together is a great way to train someone, why might it have been especially beneficial for Timothy given his family background?
3. There are helpful principles here for us all, especially for parents and ministry leaders. We need to teach people the content of the gospel (1 Timothy 1:18-20; 2 Timothy 1:13). But as we saw yesterday and again today, we do this in relationship with people as we share life together. The impact of the gospel on our lives is powerfully modeled for people if they are able to see our lives up close – warts and all... It's humbling as we consider areas we need to grow in. It's also encouraging as we consider the ways in which God has been growing us, and getting to share that to the glory of God. Who do you need to build closer relationships with?

Prayer: Pray that God would help your Christian life be a God-honouring example for those you lead and love. Ask for God's grace to see the areas you still need to grow in, and work on those areas for the glory of God.

WEEK 2: 2 TIMOTHY 1:1-5

DAY 3

Read 2 Timothy 4:6-8

1. Paul is in prison awaiting his imminent death as he wrote this second letter to Timothy. Facing death brings a sharp clarity as you reflect on life. What matters most for Paul?
2. How do you imagine this news would have impacted Timothy?
3. Death brings with it a necessary grieving process because the loss of people impacts us deeply. But as Christians, that grief is to be tempered by a hope that means we can be confident in the face of death. Timothy was pastoring a church with massive internal challenges and this news would have been hard to hear. How might Paul's words here help lift his gaze? How do they help us lift ours?

Prayer: Ask God to help you measure what is important in your life against the reality of death. Pray that God might help you fight the good fight, to finish the race, to keep the faith.

INTRODUCTION: PAUL AND TIMOTHY

DAY 4

Read 2 Timothy 3:10-11

1. Yesterday, we noticed the closeness of Paul's and Timothy's relationship. Paul became a spiritual father to Timothy (1 Timothy 1:2; 2 Timothy 1:2). In today's reading we see a different aspect of Paul's relationship with Timothy. Paul is contrasting his life with those of the false teachers in Ephesus. What is Paul saying about his life to Timothy?
2. Why might this have been helpful for Timothy?
3. Who do you look to as a godly model for how to live your life? Who sets the pace for you? What pace are you setting for those looking to you?

Prayer. Pray that God might help you model your life on people whose life and convictions are Christ-like so that, in turn, yours might also be like Christ.

WEEK 2: 2 TIMOTHY 1:1-5

DAY 5

Read Romans 16:17-21

1. This week we've seen Timothy as Paul's loved son in the faith. We've also seen how Paul's life was a model for Timothy to follow as Paul trained him. Today, we see Timothy referred to in a slightly different light. How does Paul describe him here?
2. Jesus' final words in Matthew's gospel are well known as the Great Commission (Matthew 28). It is about Jesus' priority to see disciples making disciples – throughout the ages, to all nations. Paul must have had great joy watching Timothy grow as a young disciple of Jesus into a leader of God's people to eventually becoming considered a co-worker with Paul. Investing in others is such an important aspect of the Christian life. It is also a great challenge because it will cost us in all kinds of ways individually and together – both to be trained, and to train others. How might you stretch yourself this year to be trained yourself and to train others?

Prayer: Pray that God puts a burden on your heart to make the biggest impact you can with your life for Jesus.

INTRODUCTION: PAUL AND TIMOTHY

NOTES AND PRAYER POINTS

WEEK 3: 2 TIMOTHY 1:6-14

DAY 1

Read 2 Timothy 1:6-7

1. In 1 Timothy 1:3-11 Paul urged Timothy to stay in Ephesus to stop the false teaching and make sure the church was secure in the truth of the gospel. It must have been a daunting task for him; one that presented the possibility of fear for Timothy, who it seems was prone to timidity. How does Paul address this with Timothy in today's passage?
2. Why might power, love and self-control be important for God's servants?
3. Where do these virtues come from? Why is that so encouraging?

Prayer: Pray that you might also keep alive what God has placed in you, and see it grow that you might be a person of ballast (secure in the truth of the gospel), of love (self giving) and of godly character (self control).

GUARDING THE GOOD DEPOSIT OF THE GOSPEL

DAY 2

Read 2 Timothy 1:8-14

BIBLE IN 2 YEARS

Numbers 4-13; Proverbs 4-6;
Matthew 27-28

1. What do these verses reveal about Paul's great concern for Timothy?
2. How might Paul's imprisonment threaten Timothy's confidence?
3. In verse 9, Paul mentions that we have a holy calling, a call to be different, set apart from the world as we stand with and for Jesus. But the more we move away from the world's values, priorities and loves, the more different we will become. The more obvious it will be that we can't be part of the wickedness that goes on around us. For many, this will mean suffering in a range of ways. What impact does this have on your desire to grow in the Christian life?

Prayer. Pray that God would grow your knowledge, love, convictions and actions so that you might stand firm for Jesus and call others to stand with you – even in the face of challenges and suffering.

WEEK 3: 2 TIMOTHY 1:6-14

DAY 3

Read 2 Timothy 1:8-14

1. It is not uncommon to think that God is somehow more distant from our experience when we are going through hardship or suffering. What do we learn here about the presence of God within Paul's suffering?
2. In what ways do you find this encouraging?

Prayer: Pray that God might help you see that suffering for the gospel does not mean loss but gain.

GUARDING THE GOOD DEPOSIT OF THE GOSPEL

DAY 4

Read 2 Timothy 1:8-14

1. Paul calls Timothy to bold endurance as a servant of Jesus. What is the basis for Paul's confidence that Timothy can endure?
2. How is this an encouragement for us also?

Prayer. Thank God for the great confidence we can have to endure suffering for the sake of Jesus because we know that God by His Spirit lives in us and works in us to that end.

WEEK 3: 2 TIMOTHY 1:6-14

DAY 5

Read 2 Timothy 1:8-14

1. Paul urges Timothy to guard the good deposit of the gospel that was entrusted to him (verses 13-14), but how is he to do this?
2. What things threaten the good deposit of the gospel?
3. What are you doing to guard the good deposit of the gospel in your own life, in your family, among your friends and beyond?

Prayer: Ask God to help you grow in your knowledge and love of God through sound Bible teaching. Pray that this knowledge will grow your faith (trust) in God no matter what situation you face, and deepen your love for God and others.

GUARDING THE GOOD DEPOSIT OF THE GOSPEL

NOTES AND PRAYER POINTS

WEEK 4: 2 TIMOTHY 1:15-18

DAY 1

Read 2 Timothy 1:15-18

The city of Ephesus was the capital of the Roman province of Asia. It was where Paul had sent Timothy.

1. How did Paul's Asian friends react to his imprisonment?
2. Why do you think there was such a difference in how people responded?
3. What examples do you see today of people like these?

Prayer: Pray that you might not be ashamed of the suffering of Jesus, or those who teach the gospel. Pray you might be bold and supportive in every way you can to see the gospel grow in your generation.

THE IMPORTANCE OF GOSPEL PARTNERSHIP

DAY 2

Read 2 Timothy 1:15-18

BIBLE IN 2 YEARS

Numbers 14-23; Proverbs 7-9;
Acts 1-2

1. Gospel partnership is really important in a world that is hostile to the things of Jesus. What does gospel partnership look like in these verses?
2. In what ways are you active in gospel partnership? How could you stretch yourself?

Prayer. Pray that God would grow your desire to be an encourager for those around you who are serving Jesus.

WEEK 4: 2 TIMOTHY 1:15-18

DAY 3

Read Philippians 1:1-11 and 15-22; 4:10-20

Today we're going to think a little more about the importance of gospel partnership from Paul's letter to the church in Philippi.

1. Paul (with Timothy) gives thanks to God because of their partnership in the gospel with the church in Philippi in these opening verses.
 - a. How is their partnership in the gospel seen in their heart for each other?
 - b. How is their partnership in the gospel seen in practical ways?
2. How do these verses help you think about the way you are currently engaging in gospel partnership?

Prayer: Pray that God grows your love, concern and prayers for your leaders and mission partners. Pray that God would help you be generous in the way you show your partnership.

THE IMPORTANCE OF GOSPEL PARTNERSHIP

DAY 4

Read Hebrews 10:19-25

1. Gospel partnership is not only about us supporting church leaders or missionaries as they do gospel work; it also impacts our lives with each other. What does this passage call us to do for each other?
2. What is the risk if we don't?
3. Is this something you could start doing?

Prayer. Ask God to help grow your conviction to actively encourage people to be regular at church, to love and serve each other.

WEEK 4: 2 TIMOTHY 1:15-18

DAY 5

Read Romans 16:1-16

1. What does this passage reveal about the value Paul places on those who have served with him?
2. Partnering together in gospel work is the greatest thing we can do with our lives. Jesus said the harvest is plentiful but the labourers are few. In fact, it is the only kind of work that is not in vain (1 Corinthians 15:58). By God's grace, the impact of our ministry to each other and the world around us could be so much greater than it currently is. Be encouraged today to love each other deeply, follow Jesus' example in the way you live and be intentional about how you pray for, and act to see the gospel grow. Are you making the most of your time and relationships for the sake of Jesus?

Prayer: Ask God to use you today for His glory.

THE IMPORTANCE OF GOSPEL PARTNERSHIP

NOTES AND PRAYER POINTS

WEEK 5: 2 TIMOTHY 2:1-13

DAY 1

Read 2 Timothy 2:1-13

1. What does Paul instruct Timothy to do here?
2. Given the weight of Timothy's task, why might it be important for him to draw strength from God's grace?
3. Sharing the gospel can be a daunting task for many of us, yet there is great encouragement knowing we rely on the gracious power of God by His Spirit in this supernatural work. Do you find this knowledge motivates you?

Prayer: Pray that you might grow in courage in the knowledge that God stands behind and empowers His servants in the task of telling people the gospel.

ENTRUSTING THE GOSPEL TO OTHERS

DAY 2

Read 2 Timothy 2:1-7

BIBLE IN 2 YEARS

Numbers 24-33; Psalms 42-44;
Acts 3-4

1. Paul uses three metaphors to describe what Timothy is to be like in his task.
 - a. How should he be like a soldier?
 - b. How should he be like an athlete?
 - c. How should he be like a farmer?
2. Each of these metaphors connects an attribute with an outcome. What is Paul saying here about how Timothy will need to conduct himself if he is to succeed in his task of seeing the gospel passed on to others, who will in turn be qualified to teach others?
3. How would you describe yourself in light of these attributes?

Prayer. Pray that God would help you have the single-minded dedication of a good soldier, the law-abiding obedience of a good athlete and the painstaking hard work of a good farmer in your Christian life and ministry.

WEEK 5: 2 TIMOTHY 2:1-13

DAY 3

Read 2 Timothy 2:8-13

1. What are the sources of Paul's confidences here?
2. How might these things also give you confidence?

Prayer: Pray that the reality of Jesus' death and resurrection might radically shape your life.

ENTRUSTING THE GOSPEL TO OTHERS

DAY 4

Read 2 Timothy 2:8-13

1. In 2:1-7, Paul used three metaphors to describe the essential nature of wholeheartedness and hard work in Christian service. In 2:8-13, how does Paul refer to Jesus' example, his own experience, and the experience of Christians in general to drive home this point?
2. In what specific ways can we die with Christ, endure and remain faithful?

Prayer: Pray that God helps you know that blessing comes through pain, fruit through toil, life through death, and glory through suffering.

WEEK 5: 2 TIMOTHY 2:1-13

DAY 5

Read 2 Timothy 2:1-2

1. Having worked through this passage bit by bit this week, how does it impact the way you read Paul's words to Timothy here?
2. For 2,000 years, men and women have counted the cost and given themselves to the task of making sure the gospel is taught, and entrusted to others also. We are the beneficiaries of God's grace and people's faithfulness throughout the ages. For the sake of our children, and their children we must be sure to give ourselves wholeheartedly to the same work. If we were captured fully by this vision, how might it impact our lives?

Prayer: Pray that God would graciously use you to make a difference to the next generation so they might know and be equipped to entrust the gospel to the next one so that hundreds and thousands of people might be saved.

ENTRUSTING THE GOSPEL TO OTHERS

NOTES AND PRAYER POINTS

WEEK 6: 2 TIMOTHY 2:14-26

DAY 1

Read 2 Timothy 2:14-15

1. As Timothy faces false teaching in Ephesus, Paul gives him clear instructions on how to engage, beginning with positive actions. What is he tasked to do here?
2. What is the connection between Timothy's teaching and his life as he confronts the false teachers? Why might this be important?
3. Like Timothy, Christians can most effectively promote the gospel when they can explain it clearly and live it out consistently. While we are constantly in need of growing, are there particular areas you need to give attention to in your own life?

Prayer: Pray that God would stir you towards greater gospel clarity – both in what you understand about it, and how it impacts your life.

TEACH, DEFEND AND LIVE THE GOSPEL

DAY 2

Read 2 Timothy 2:16-18

BIBLE IN 2 YEARS

Numbers 34-36; Psalms 45-48;
Acts 5-6

1. As Timothy commits himself to faithfully teaching the Word of God and living in a godly way, what does Paul tell Timothy to avoid, and why?

2. It's interesting to note here that the most significant spiritual danger to the church arises from false teaching. The flipside is to see that the best way to engage in spiritual warfare is to ground people in the truth of the gospel and call them to live godly lives in light of it. This is what Paul talks about in Ephesians 6:10-17 regarding the armour of God.
 - a. How does this passage help you know what to value highly and how to prayerfully support your church and its leadership?

 - b. How does this passage help you know what your own priorities ought to be?

Prayer. Pray for your church and its leaders as well as our mission partners today. Pray we might all work hard in being grounded in the truth of the gospel.

WEEK 6: 2 TIMOTHY 2:14-26

DAY 3

Read 2 Timothy 2:19-21

1. What do we learn here about godliness?
 - a. Can we claim to be right with God and live with indifference towards sin?
 - b. Can we expect to be useful in our service of God if we are indifferent towards sin?
2. While our behaviour can't earn us a right standing with God, it certainly bears witness to it. Are you consciously avoiding dealing with sin in your life?

Prayer: Pray that God would grow in you a desire to be useful and effective in your Christian life as you fight sin and rely on His goodness.

TEACH, DEFEND AND LIVE THE GOSPEL

DAY 4

Read 2 Timothy 2:22-26

1. What is Timothy to avoid?
2. What is he to pursue?
3. What do you find most challenging here?

Prayer. Pray God would continue to free you from sin and grow you in righteousness.

WEEK 6: 2 TIMOTHY 2:14-26

DAY 5

Read 2 Timothy 2:22-26

1. Paul continues to highlight the great spiritual danger of false teaching. Who is really at work behind this false teaching?
2. How is Timothy to deal with the false teachers?
3. It's quite sobering to read here that the devil himself is at work seeking to trap Christians in false thinking and ungodly living. It is a wake-up call to realise that we can't afford to take ungodliness lightly – in those around us, but especially in ourselves. We need to be assured of our standing in Christ through the sound teaching of the gospel. We also need to be committed to living godly lives so that we don't get caught up in the devil's trap. We also need to be gentle and clear as we call those in error that God might grant them repentance. How has this week's section of 2 Timothy impacted you?

Prayer: Pray God would keep growing you to see the importance of knowing the gospel and living in light of it. Ask Him to give you strength as you stand against sin and seek to be an affective servant of God.

TEACH, DEFEND AND LIVE THE GOSPEL

NOTES AND PRAYER POINTS

WEEK 7: 2 TIMOTHY 3:1-9

This week's readings follow Paul's warning to Timothy about the future challenges to the gospel. These challenges started in Paul's age and have continued through the ages to our time.

DAY 1

Read 2 Timothy 3:1-9

1. What does Paul warn Timothy about in these verses?
2. Why will this occur?
3. To what extent do you see these challenges around us today? Where do you see the subtle expression of these attitudes and actions in your own life (3:15)?

Prayer: Pray that you might be strong against the temptation to think more of yourself than you ought, and to love things more than God.

FUTURE CHALLENGES TO THE GOSPEL

DAY 2

**Read Matthew 22:36-40;
2 Timothy 3:1-5**

BIBLE IN 2 YEARS

Deuteronomy 1-7; Psalms 49-51;
Acts 7-8

1. How does Paul's description of what people will become compare with Jesus description of the greatest commandment?
2. How does a genuine love for God help you maintain a healthy self-perspective?
3. How does a genuine love for your neighbour help guard you against materialism?
4. If we are unable to love God or each other as we ought, where does that drive us? Where ought it drive you today?

Prayer. Ask God to humble you, that you would see your frailty and vulnerability to sin. Pray that by this you would grow in your knowledge and love of God for making it possible for you to be forgiven and loved even though you are not worthy. Pray that you might grow in your love for others as a result.

WEEK 7: 2 TIMOTHY 3:1-9

DAY 3

Read Luke 18:9-14; 2 Timothy 3:1-9

1. How does Jesus' teaching in Luke 18 help us see the danger of thinking too highly of ourselves?
2. Why might the facade of godliness be an active denial of its power?
3. Honesty and humility before God because of our sin is necessary regardless of who we are, what we have, or what we've done. One of the most amazing paradoxes of the Christian life is that we can be brutally honest with ourselves, our shortcomings and failures without fear of rejection. We can do this because God doesn't love us based on our performance; He loves us because of Jesus. Why do you need to hear this today?

Prayer: Come before God in prayer today like the tax collector, humble and honest, knowing your need for God's mercy because God delights to forgive.

FUTURE CHALLENGES TO THE GOSPEL

DAY 4

Read Mark 10:17-27; 2 Timothy 3:1-5

1. What is stopping the rich man entering the kingdom, and why?
2. Where does hope lie for entry into God's kingdom?
3. What attitude ought that produce in us as we come before God?

Prayer. What is impossible for man is possible for God... Ask God to help you grow in your dependence on Him. Pray that this might cause you to pray more, for all things.

WEEK 7: 2 TIMOTHY 3:1-9

DAY 5

Read 1 Timothy 6:6-10; 2 Timothy 3:6-9

1. Paul warned Timothy that the love of money was a root of all kinds of evil. What kinds of evil do the money-loving false teachers express in 2 Timothy 3:6-9?
2. Reading passages like this one in 2 Timothy seem extreme and not our everyday experience. However, because we live in such a materialistic culture, we are wise to take heed of the warning and the remedy. What does Paul say our attitude ought to be regarding wealth?
3. Why might we need to be so careful to heed this advice where we live today?

Prayer: Pray that God would remind you that we don't belong here. Heaven is our home; we are just passing through. Be careful how tight you hold on to the things of this world because they fight against our love for God.

FUTURE CHALLENGES TO THE GOSPEL

NOTES AND PRAYER POINTS

WEEK 8: 2 TIMOTHY 3:10-17

DAY 1

Read 2 Timothy 3:10-17

1. In what way is Paul's life an important model for Timothy?
2. Verse 12 sounds harsh, but it's really important to hear, why?
3. What kind of persecution might we face today for living a godly life?

Prayer: Pray that God would grant you the strength to stand for Jesus as Paul did, as Timothy did, and as the countless Christians throughout the ages have done so that the gospel might continue bearing fruit.

CONFIDENCE IN GOD'S GOSPEL WORD

DAY 2

Read 2 Timothy 3:10-17

BIBLE IN 2 YEARS

Deuteronomy 8-17; Psalms 52-54;
Acts 9-10

1. What makes the Bible such a unique book?
2. What might it mean that the Bible is "God breathed"?
(See also 2 Peter 2:21)
3. How does this shape our conviction of the Bible's authority?
4. How does it help us think about what we most need to hear when we gather together each week in church and Growth Groups?

Prayer. Thank God that He has spoken to us through the Bible in the most profound way. Thank Him for not leaving us in the dark about life, but that He has spoken to us in a clear way.

WEEK 8: 2 TIMOTHY 3:10-17

DAY 3

Read Hebrews 3:7-19 and 4:12-13

This week we've read how the Apostle Paul refers to the Bible as 'breathed out by God', meaning it contains the authoritative words of God Himself! Today, we'll notice something more amazing again about the nature of these words. As you seek to answer today's questions, be mindful that there 'might' be more than one answer...

1. Who is speaking?
2. When are they speaking?
3. Who is this speaking to?
4. What is the message?
5. What does Hebrews 4:12-13 say about the Bible?
6. There are so many books out there that advise people how to 'hear' God speak personally. But what does God tell us about where to find His living and active voice to us today?

Prayer: Thank God for the confidence we can have knowing that He speaks to us clearly in His Word every time we open it and read it. Ask Him to help us come to the Bible with reverence and excitement because we know that the Sovereign Lord of the universe will address us personally in it!

CONFIDENCE IN GOD'S GOSPEL WORD

DAY 4

Read 2 Timothy 3:14-17

1. It is worth noticing that God doesn't promise to tell us everything we want to know, but He does tell us everything we need to know. What are the Scriptures completely sufficient to do for us?
2. How might they do this?
3. As you read the Bible, do you come before God expecting Him to do these things in/for you?

Prayer. Ask God to give you an expectant heart to grow in godliness as you come before Him in His Word.

WEEK 8: 2 TIMOTHY 3:10-17

DAY 5

Read 2 Timothy 3:10-17

1. How is Timothy to resist the false teachers and their impact?
2. It is good to notice that although the impact of the false teachers is real (3:13), Paul has already said their folly will be clear to everyone (3:9). The best way to resist false teachers/teaching is to ensure you are grounded in a sound understanding of the Word of God yourself, and teach others also. False teaching is dead, God's Word is alive and active – to bring salvation, to grow people in righteousness and to equip people for service. Paul wants Timothy (and, by extension, us) to have great confidence in God's gospel Word as we seek to understand it, live it out and share it with others in a hostile world. Have this week's readings helped bolster your confidence in it?

Prayer: Pray today for our mission partners as they seek to teach the gospel in other cultures, pray they might be courageous, clear and effective in this work.

CONFIDENCE IN GOD'S GOSPEL WORD

NOTES AND PRAYER POINTS

WEEK 9: 2 TIMOTHY 4:1-8

DAY 1

Read 2 Timothy 4:1-5

1. Paul now comes to the close of his final letter. How would you describe the tone of this section?
2. Having just been reminded of the divine origin and power of God's Word, what is Timothy now charged to do with it?
3. How do you imagine Timothy received these words at this point in the letter?
4. This gospel charge applies to all Christian ministers as it outlines their primary purpose in ministry. It is God's Word that calls people to salvation, grows them and equips them for ministry. It reminds us of what we should want our church and mission partners to be about. It's what we give our time, energy, money and prayers to see happen: God growing His church through the gospel. While these words of Paul may not hit you personally like they hit Timothy, or the ministers we have among us, they should be the focused priority of our purpose together as God's church. To that end, will you do all you can to see the Coast and beyond won to Jesus? What are some of the big prayers that you and/or your Growth Group can present to God this week?

Prayer: Pray that you might feel the urgent weight and burden of our purpose together as God's church to see the gospel taught, people saved, people grown and equipped to see more and more people come to know Jesus.

THE GOSPEL CHARGE

DAY 2

Read 2 Timothy 4:1-5

BIBLE IN 2 YEARS

Deuteronomy 18-27; Psalms 55-57;
Acts 11-12

1. There are five key exhortations Paul makes to Timothy, five things he's to give himself to as a minister. What are they?
2. If these five things are the work of a Christian minister, it's awesome to think that in a good church you'll get dedicated preaching and teaching, commitment to being ready at all times, and to be encouraged in the faith. But are you humble enough to be corrected or rebuked?

Prayer. Pray that God would soften you to His Word so that those who minister that Word to you each week might be able to do so knowing it will land in fertile soil.

WEEK 9: 2 TIMOTHY 4:1-8

DAY 3

Read 2 Timothy 4:1-5

1. Why does Timothy need to minister with “great patience and careful instruction” (4:2)?
2. How might this advice remind Timothy of where his authority as a minister comes from, particularly when facing a tough crowd?
3. As we consider the complex range of issues facing our generation, why might this advice be important for us also?

Prayer: Ask God for great patience, for careful thought and gracious engagement for Christian pastors and leaders as they contend for the gospel in an increasingly hostile world.

THE GOSPEL CHARGE

DAY 4

Read 2 Timothy 4:6-8

1. How is Paul's life the living model of what he's been calling Timothy to do in this letter?
2. What has Paul achieved, and what is he now looking forward to?
3. What is the reason Christians can give up their lives in the service of God and others without suffering any real loss?
4. In many ways, the reality of heaven to us ought to be obvious by the choices we make. Does your life commend the fact there is a life to come, one where your reward truly belongs?

Prayer. Ask God to give you a bigger heart for heaven, and a greater burden to make the most of your life for the sake of God's Kingdom.

WEEK 9: 2 TIMOTHY 4:1-8

DAY 5

Read 2 Timothy 4:6-8

1. When you face the end of your earthly life, do you want to be able to say along with Paul, “I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith”?
2. There are things we need to stop doing, things we need to keep doing, and things we may need to start doing for that to be a reality. What might these things be for you?

Prayer: Pray that God would help you make the most of your earthly life to stand for Jesus, grow in Him and see others won to Him.

THE GOSPEL CHARGE

NOTES AND PRAYER POINTS

WEEK 10: 2 TIMOTHY 4:9-22

DAY 1

Read 2 Timothy 4:9-22

1. One of the big themes of 2 Timothy has been the need to stand firm until the end. Paul's own example is one who was persevering in spite of suffering (1:11-12) because he had an eternal perspective (4:6-8). By contrast, what led to Demas deserting Paul?
2. Why might Paul's arrest have tested the nerve of the early Christians?
3. It's a bit of a reality check to ask ourselves the question about whether our love for the things of this world might cause us to compromise our allegiance to Jesus. Honest reflection is sometimes hard to do, but it's beneficial. What earthly things do you find hardest to let go of for the sake of Jesus?

Prayer: Pray that God might keep growing your confidence in the gospel and a certainty of the things to come so that you might live your life in this world without getting tangled up in its temptations.

GOSPEL CONFIDENCE AND THE REALITY OF LIFE

DAY 2

Read 2 Timothy 4:9-22

BIBLE IN 2 YEARS

Deuteronomy 28-34; Joshua 1-3;
Psalms 58-61; Acts 13-14

1. What do we learn about Paul's experience before the courts in Rome?
 - a. What caused him concern?
 - b. What gave him confidence?
 - c. What was his main priority throughout it all?
2. What do you think he means in verse 18 about the Lord rescuing him from every evil deed?
3. There's something profoundly challenging about Paul's confidence that God will keep him from falling away and bring him safely home to heaven. Do you share his confidence?

Prayer. Pray that God would allow you to continue loving and serving those people around you with the great confidence that heaven is coming!

WEEK 10: 2 TIMOTHY 4:9-22

DAY 3

Read Philippians 3:7-4:1

Throughout the letter of 2 Timothy, we have seen Paul's heart for Timothy and the Christians in Ephesus (and beyond!). To conclude this series, we will walk through a number of passages that continue to show Paul's urgent message for us as followers of Jesus this side of heaven.

1. What is Paul's burden for the Christians in Philippi?
2. There are a number of ways to measure maturity throughout the New Testament. What measure does Paul give us here?
3. How would you rate your own maturity by Paul's measure?

Prayer: Ask God to keep growing your understanding of the gospel. Pray that you might stand firm in it and be wise to the pull of the world that tempts you to compromise.

GOSPEL CONFIDENCE AND THE REALITY OF LIFE

DAY 4

Read Colossians 1:24-2:5

1. What is Paul's goal in ministry?
2. What do we see here about how Christians mature?
3. How might our attitude towards church, growth group and personal Bible reading have a massive impact on our growth into maturity as Christians?

Prayer. Ask God to make you hungry for His Word so that you might understand it, be changed by it, live by it, and tell others about it.

WEEK 10: 2 TIMOTHY 4:9-22

DAY 5

Read 2 Timothy 2:1-2

For our last day in this series, we're returning to one of the central themes of 2 Timothy. Jesus has entrusted the gospel to Paul, who entrusted it to Timothy. Timothy was then tasked by Paul to entrust the gospel to others who would be qualified to teach. While this most directly relates to people who would be gospel ministers (pastors, teachers, evangelists, missionaries etc), we all have a responsibility to speak the Word of God to each other (Colossians 3:15-17). We are to do this in a way that encourages and builds each other up, to pass on the gospel to others for their salvation and their growth in maturity.

As we've seen this week, the goal is for people to be saved and matured so that they would stand firm in the gospel to the end – no matter what comes.

As Christians, we've all been entrusted with the gospel for our salvation. Now we must give ourselves to growing in maturity as we seek to understand God's Word in a way that breaks down our earthly priorities and swallows them up into an eternal hope. We need to be transformed in the way we see the world and the way we live in it.

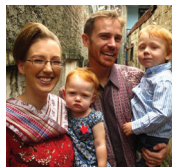
1. How are you going as a learner of God's Word?
 - a. Do you make studying God's Word a priority in your life?
 - b. Do you make it a priority to grow in your understanding and your obedience to God's Word?
 - c. What goals might you set for this next term to grow as one who has been entrusted with the gospel?

Prayer: Pray that God helps you become an increasingly hungry learner of His Word so that you are securely grounded in the gospel, grow in maturity, and then become equipped to pass it on to others.

GOSPEL CONFIDENCE AND THE REALITY OF LIFE

NOTES AND PRAYER POINTS

EV MISSION PARTNERS



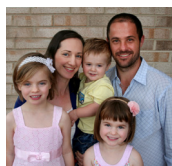
Derek and Anna - Southeast Asia (OMF)

Derek and Anna (Liam, Jasmine and Juliet) are working in theological education and cross-cultural worker mobilisation in Southeast Asia. Derek continues with his classes in a local Bible college and is starting to train people to reach out to minority ethnic groups where there is no church. They are also trying to reach out to their local community, developing friendships and reading the Bible with those interested.



Colin and Jill Bakon - SIM: Latin American Ministry

Colin's two roles are in church mobilisation in Latin America where he is raising up national teams to run Kairos, with special focus this year on Ecuador and Peru. He is also working with a taskforce in SIM (Serving In Mission), to mobilise for new initiatives within SIM. This will see work happening in areas where there is no church, and development of missionaries being sent out from all countries where SIM works in Africa, Asia and Latin America.



Craig and Samantha McCorkindale - Cambodia (CMS)

The McCorkindales replace the Vinks (CMS) who have now returned to Australia and are in residence at SMBC. Craig and Samantha, along with their children, are going to Cambodia in early 2017. In their first year in Cambodia, they will both begin formal language learning as they connect in with the community. Craig will be forming relationships at Phnom Penh Bible School, where he plans to teach. We're asking Growth Groups who have been supporting the Vinks to transfer this support to the McCorkindales.



Paul and Sandra King - Strasbourg, France (CMS)

Paul and Sandra are thriving in their university ministry in Strasbourg and somewhat newer ministry in a local church plant. They serve alongside French Christians in the University Bible Group (GBU), involving the training of Uni students in evangelism, discipling, and teaching the Bible. The church planting work includes a coffee shop and teaching English to connect the church with people in the community.



Martin and Jen Shadwick - AFES Newcastle Uni

Martin and Jen (Hannah and Evie) work full time with AFES at Newcastle University discipling and training Christian students. Martin continues to lead the AFES staff team, who work with both local and overseas students including a ministry to Muslim students. Pray for wisdom in balancing ministry and family life, and for new partners to help them continue in this important ministry.



Jono and Grace Wright - AIM

Jono and Grace Wright, with their kids, are working amongst Aboriginals in Camooweal and the surrounding communities along the Sandover Highway. They are with Australian Indigenous Ministries (AIM). Their ministries include preaching at Sunday meetings, weekly Bible study groups, weekly prayer meetings, Sunday School, Scripture in the local primary school, weekend Bible schools and also an itinerant ministry.



The Geneva Push

Geneva Push is an Australian Church Planting Network aiming to inspire, equip and unleash a new generation of church planters dedicated to evangelising churches into existence. It has set in place a high quality assessment process and provides ongoing support and training through coaching structures, mentoring and ongoing conferences to ensure the biggest impact as planters.



Liam and Lucy Doyle - Lake Mac Church

Liam and Lucy Doyle head up the church plant in Lake Macquarie and are now mentored through the Geneva program. There is a great range of ages, and despite differences - like age, education and nationality - they enjoy a real sense of warmth, friendship and love as they hear God's word together and help each other follow Jesus. Pray for a good mentor relationship with Dave Sheath from Lakes Evangelical Church.



Jai and Jay-Ellen Wright - MAKE Church, Mackay

Jai and Jay with their four children (Amber, Ebony, Kade and Jett) have planted the MAKE church in Mackay. They are continuing to develop depth in the church through leadership development and have two new MTS workers to help with this task. They are longing to see a community of people who are permanently living in Mackay actively living out their faith as a witness to all who live there.

