

2 Timothy -- The Last Words of the Apostle Paul

First Presbyterian Church of Bakersfield
2026 Feb-Mar Sermon Series Study Guide

2 Timothy 2:8-21 (NIV)

8 Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, descended from David. This is my gospel, 9 for which I am suffering even to the point of being chained like a criminal. But God's word is not chained. 10 Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they too may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory.

11 Here is a trustworthy saying:

If we died with him, we will also live with him;

12 if we endure, we will also reign with him.

If we disown him, he will also disown us;

13 if we are faithless, he remains faithful, for he cannot disown himself.

14 Keep reminding God's people of these things. Warn them before God against quarreling about words; it is of no value, and only ruins those who listen. 15 Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth. 16 Avoid godless chatter, because those who indulge in it will become more and more ungodly. 17 Their teaching will spread like gangrene. Among them are Hymenaeus and Philetus, 18 who have departed from the truth. They say that the resurrection has already taken place, and they destroy the faith of some. 19 Nevertheless, God's solid foundation stands firm, sealed with this inscription: "The Lord knows those who are his," and, "Everyone who confesses the name of the Lord must turn away from wickedness."

20 In a large house there are articles not only of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay; some are for special purposes and some for common use. 21 Those who cleanse themselves from the latter will be instruments for special purposes, made holy, useful to the Master and prepared to do any good work.

Firm Foundation

OPEN

- What is a Bible verse that has been foundational in your faith?
- Read 2 Timothy 2:8-21.

STUDY

- What is Paul asking Timothy to remember? Why? (vs 8-10)
- How might the trustworthy statement in verses 11-13 motivate Timothy? How can it motivate us today?
- Of what does Paul tell Timothy to warn God's people about in verses 14-19 and how is he to do it?
- Discuss the meaning of "correctly handling the word of truth". (vs 15)
- What are the results of being one who does not correctly handle the truth? (vs 14-19)
- How do verses 20-21 summarize what Paul has been saying?
- Looking at the whole passage, how do you see Paul staying true to God's solid foundation, as mentioned in verse 19? How do you see him encouraging Timothy to stay true to his own firm foundation of faith?
- What encouragement do you need to stand firm in your faith today? Who can you ask to help you with that?

PRAY

- Pray together for deeper faith set on the firm foundation of God's truth!