



SERIES: MAY- JULY: THE MAIN THING

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Monday, 7/4/22

Scripture: 2 Timothy

TITLE: 2 Timothy - Be Prepared

I'll never forget my first-ever High School football practice. I was so excited and so nervous to be out there with the big boys. The first thing we did was get on the line and run sprints. It was a hot August night and I hadn't eaten much that day. After a few sprints, I could feel my body failing me. I started to get light-headed and almost passed out! I'll never forget the embarrassment that I felt. I wasn't able to keep going because I hadn't prepared, and my body wasn't ready to endure such a challenge.

As I think about the book of 2nd Timothy, and I remember that conditioning in high school I think of one idea. Perseverance. When things become difficult in life, especially in our spiritual life, how can we keep going? How can we persevere? The book of 2 Timothy addresses this idea of being bold in our faith and persevering through trials.

Christians should read this book to encourage our faith. This book talks about being bold and standing up to false teachers, training ourselves and being disciplined in our faith, and staying true to the gospel message.

Some of the basic background of this book is that it was written by the Apostle Paul specifically to his protege Timothy. Paul is writing this letter from yet another imprisonment in Rome, and it appears that Paul knows his time on Earth is coming to a close. This is the last letter of Paul and some of his final encouragement to one of his closest friends and ministry partners.

We know this book was written right at the end of Paul's life and was most likely completed somewhere between 64 and 67 A.D. Notable people mentioned in this book include the apostle Paul, Timothy, Lois, and Eunice.

Where do we find Jesus in this book? In the letter, Paul talks about the presence of Christ being with him and empowering him in the midst of a very desperate situation. We see here that Christ is closest to us when we suffer. If we follow Jesus, we will suffer like Jesus but He promises to be with us to the end.

One of the most famous verses in the Bible talking about the inspiration and authority of Scripture is found in 2 Timothy 3:16-17. We read: [“All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.”](#)

This is incredible. Why should we study the Bible? Why should we trust the Bible? Because it is from the very lips of the God who created the universe! And because this book is from God himself it is useful. We need to know the Scriptures so that we can be taught, corrected, and trained for righteousness so that we can live like Jesus. We need the right equipment to complete the mission Jesus has given us and that equipment is given to us in the Bible.

My key takeaway from reading 2 Timothy is this: living for Jesus is extremely difficult especially when persecution arises therefore, we must ground ourselves in the truth of God's word. In God's word, we are reminded of the truth of the Gospel and this truth can keep us going no matter what, as Jesus promises to stand with believers in the midst of suffering.

Back at that first High School football practice during conditioning, my body failed me because I hadn't trained my body to endure or persevere through struggle. We as Christians must prepare our hearts and minds to persevere in life and we need to train ourselves in the truth of God's word to do it. In our deepest trials and sufferings, the word of God and the presence of Jesus will hold us fast and allow our faith to persevere.