

Bethany Bible Study & Discussion



II TIMOTHY

Part-2

(chapter 2)
KJV

4.10.2024

2:1-14

Church Growth & Personal Growth

SECRET OF STRENGTH (1): What must be the source of Timothy's strength in ministry?

SECRET OF CHURCH CONTINUITY & GROWTH (2): What must Timothy do with what he received from Paul?

SECRET OF SUCCESS IN MINISTRY (3-7): What can we learn from the analogies of Soldier, Athlete, and Farmer?

REWARDS AND WARNINGS (8-14): What is the gospel? Why is Paul willing to suffer for gospel? What are the implications of three "If, then" statements?

Paul's call to action for Timothy

(chapter 1)

1. Stir up the gift (Holy Spirit, Spiritual gifts)
2. Don't be timid (Holy Spirit comes with Power, Love, Sound mind)
3. Don't be ashamed of the gospel
4. Don't be ashamed of prisoner Paul
5. Suffer for gospel
6. Hold on to sound doctrine
7. Guard what is given by Holy spirit

Secret of Strength (1)

What must be the source of
Timothy's strength in
ministry?

Be Strong! (1)

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

Secret of strength: His grace

John 1:17 For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.

- His grace made real through the power of indwelling Holy spirit

Paul could endure afflictions because of God's grace in his life.

II Corinthians 12:9 And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee:

I Corinthians 15:10 But by the grace of God I am what I am:

Philippians 4:13 I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

What is the source of our strength?

**Our strength
must be in
the Lord,
and not in us
or from the
world.**

Ephesians 6:10 be strong
in the Lord, and in the
power of his might.

Isaiah 40:31 But they that wait upon the LORD shall
renew *their* strength;

Psalms 46:1 God is our refuge and strength, a very present help
in trouble.

Psalms 121:1 I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence
cometh my help.

Isaiah 31:1 Woe to those who go down to Egypt for help,

Psalms 20:7 Some *trust* in chariots, and some in horses; But we
will remember the name of the LORD our God.

Secret of Church Continuity & growth (2)

What must Timothy do
with what he received
from Paul?

Paul's gift to Timothy

And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also (2)

What did Timothy receive from Paul?

- True Gospel
- Sound doctrine

What must Timothy do with this treasure of gospel truth and sound doctrine?

Pass it on (2)

What Timothy learned from Paul **must be passed on** to:

(a) 'faithful men', (b) who are able to teach

Paul was put in ministry because of his faithfulness: And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that he counted me **faithful**, putting me into the ministry (I Timothy 1:12)

Just as Paul passed to Timothy, Timothy must pass it on to others.

Passing on is critical step for the growth of the church

Pass it on (2)

Moses (and prophets) *passed it* on to Israelites

Jesus *passed on* to his disciples

John 15:15 Henceforth I call you ... friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you.

Apostles *passed it* on to the church.

Great commission requires *passing on* the gospel to the lost.

Passing on is critical for the preservation, health, and growth of the church.

Some churches don't Pass it on

Some churches are not good at passing on/ delegating

WHY: There may be reluctance to pass it on due to:

- Lack of faithful men
- Lack of confidence in others
- Hesitation to give up positions/ powers

Consequence

- lack of development of gifts and growth among young believers
- church weakens after passing away of leaders

Have we received the gospel & sound doctrine?

Are we passing it on?

Secret of Success in Ministry (3-7)

What can we learn from the
analogies of Soldier, Athlete,
and Farmer?

Secret of success in ministry

³ Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. ⁴ No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.

⁵ And if a man also strive for masteries, yet is he not crowned, except he strive lawfully. ⁶ The husbandman that laboureth must be first partaker of the fruits.

⁷ Consider what I say; and the Lord give thee understanding in all things.

SOLDIER

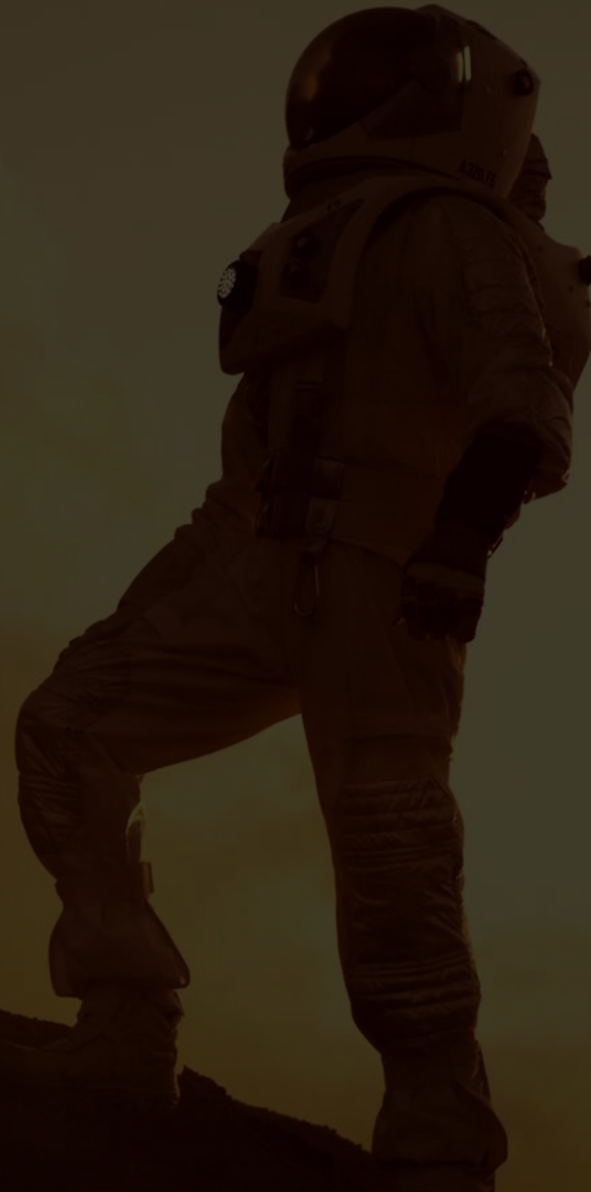
ATHLETE

FARMER



Soldier: a Life of

discipline,
dedication,
subjection,
endurance,
loyalty,
alertness
etc.



Solider

³Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. ⁴No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.

Exhortation as a solider

- Endure hardship
- Don't be entangled
- Don't look back (Luke 9:62)
 - No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.
- Please the commander who chose you
 - **Colossians 1:10** For do I now persuade men, or God? or do I seek to please men? for if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ.
 - **Acts 5:29** We ought to **obey God** rather than men.

Athlete (5)



Athlete: A life of

discipline,
dedication,
perseverance,
follow rules,
strive to improve,
focus on prize

|

Athlete

⁵ And if a man also strive for masteries, yet is he not crowned, except he strive lawfully.

Have to follow the rules, and finish, to win a prize.

I Corinthians 9:26 I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air: ²⁷ But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.

FARMER (6)

Life of farmer:

hardworking,

sow by faith,

future dependent on uncertain weather conditions,

patiently wait for harvest

some crops maybe destroyed

FARMER

⁶The husbandman that laboureth must be first partaker of the fruits.

Must be patient, cannot accelerate harvest

Preaching of gospel and sound doctrine may not always yield results as and when we want it.

GALATIANS 6:7-9

⁷Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. ⁸For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting. ⁹And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

Hebrews 10:36

For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise.

Blessings of hard work and dedication

Soldier – Victory in War

Athlete – Prize in competition

Farmer – Harvest

A Minister of God can also enjoy similar blessings when willing to suffer for the gospel.

Reflect on the analogies (7)

Analogies are simple comparisons but have deeper meanings.

Lord will give deeper understanding when we prayerfully meditate on His words.

what can I learn from a soldier, athlete, and farmer in serving the Lord?

If ... Then

**Rewards & Warnings
(8-14)**

What are the implications of
three “If, then” statements?

Rewards and Warnings (8-14)

⁸ Remember that Jesus Christ of the seed of David was raised from the dead according to my gospel:

⁹ Wherein I suffer trouble, as an evil doer, even unto bonds; but the word of God is not bound.

¹⁰ Therefore I endure all things for the elect's sakes, that they may also obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.

¹¹ It is a faithful saying: For if we be dead with him, we shall also live with him:

¹² If we suffer, we shall also reign with him: if we deny him, he also will deny us:

¹³ If we believe not, yet he abideth faithful: he cannot deny himself.

¹⁴ Of these things put them in remembrance, charging them before the Lord that they strive not about words to no profit, but to the subverting of the hearers.

Remember (8)

⁸Remember that Jesus Christ of the seed of David was raised from the dead according to my gospel:

Remember Jesus Christ

Keep focus on risen Christ

Humanity of Christ (= Born in human form, seed of David)

Divinity of Christ (= Rose from the dead)

Paul personalized the gospel, calling it 'my gospel'

Is the gospel real and personal to us?

WORD OF GOD

⁹ Wherein I suffer trouble, as an evil doer, even unto bonds; but the word of God is not bound.

Paul suffered and was chained because of the gospel

Bibles may be burnt and banned but **Word of God cannot be bound.**

Isaiah 55:10-11 For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: ¹¹ So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

Motivation for suffering: Others

MOTIVATION

- Others may be saved
- Others may grow in the Lord
- Others may enjoy eternal glory

It is not Paul's suffering but true Gospel that brings salvation. Paul is only a vessel.

3 stages of Salvation

Justification

Past

| Sanctification

| **Present**

| Glorification

| **Future**

Glorification: I Corinthians 15:52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for it shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

IF ... THEN

#1 IF WE DIE WITH HIM, WE WILL ALSO LIVE WITH HIM

#2 IF WE SUFFER, WE WILL ALSO REIGN WITH HIM

#3 IF WE DENY HIM, HE WILL ALSO DENY US

#1 Death & Life

IF WE DIE WITH HIM, WE WILL ALSO LIVE WITH HIM

Death to sin brings true life and liberty

- Buried with him by baptism unto death (Romans 6:4)
- We will be resurrected (Romans 6:6)

Romans 6:8 Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him:

Romans 6:3-5 Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?

⁴ Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. ⁵ For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection:

Future glory

Colossians 3:4

When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.

ROMANS 8:17-18

¹⁷ And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together. ¹⁸ For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

2 Suffering and Reigning

IF WE **SUFFER**, WE WILL ALSO **REIGN** WITH HIM

- Reward only for those who are willing to suffer until the end

REVELATION 3:21 To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne.

Mathew 5:10 Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for their's is the kingdom of heaven.

3

Denial and Rejection (12)

IF WE DENY HIM, HE WILL ALSO DENY US

Mathew 10:32 Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven. ³³ But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven.

LUKE 12:9 But he that denieth me before men shall be denied before the angels of God

- Some deny Christ temporarily (ex. Peter's denial due to fear)
- Some deny Christ permanently (unbelievers)

He remains faithful: 2 views

#1 God remains faithful, despite our unfaithfulness

But **where sin abounded**, grace did much more abound:
(Romans 5:20)

God's faithfulness to forgive is not a freedom to be unfaithful and sin.

Romans 6:¹⁵ What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid. ¹⁶ Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

He remains faithful: 2 views

#1 God remains faithful, despite our unfaithfulness

#2 God remains faithful to His attributes of Love & Justice

- Peter – received forgiveness after betrayal (Love)
- Unbelievers – will face eternal separation (Justice)

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