

“Marked”

Sermon Discussion Guide

Accompanies the 10/10/21 Sermon

How to be a Paul - 2 Timothy 3:10-17

Last week we talked about how Paul and Timothy shared a special bond. Paul was an older wiser more experienced follower of Jesus and Timothy was eager to learn from him. This week we will look at Paul’s final words of encouragement and how he set-an example for Timothy. We will ask how we, like Paul, can lead others to a deeper faith.

Note: *We always try to give more questions than you need.*

ICE BREAKER

1. What is something that an older mentor has said or done that has always stuck with you?

PREPARE YOUR HEART AND MIND

Open in prayer: Pray that as you reflect on today’s scripture that God prepares your heart and mind. Pray for the ability to understand and apply its truths to your life. Pray that God will move you to help others grow in their faith.

GETTING STARTED

What stood out to you about this week message?

SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES

Read the following Scriptures together and then use the questions below (or any you wish to add) to discuss the text and unpack its meaning.

-  Have someone in your group read **2 Timothy 3:10-17**

A Peek at The Greek *parakoloutheō*: This Greek word means a great deal more than to simply follow. It is to follow someone closely to learn their values, their knowledge and their way of living. It also means to conform or become like the one you follow. Timothy closely followed Paul in many ways. He was there with Paul as his knowledge and experience grew, and as he received deeper and deeper revelations from God. If you generally read from an ESV try reading this verse from a NIV for a fuller understating.

1. What stands out to you about today's text?
2. Paul lists several experiences and qualities that Timothy observed and learned. What are some of these? Why are they important?

Paul gives three elements that should help him continue in his maturity and the calling God has for him

1. What element does he refer to in v14? (Community)
2. What about v15? (Spirit)
3. How about v16? (Word)

GETTING PRACTICAL

Discuss the following questions together as a group; be willing to share how challenges and trials have affected your life.

1. Have you ever been able to be a Paul to someone else? What was that experience like?
2. Would this be something you would like to be more often?
 - a. What prevents you?

Paul was an example of the characteristics and values of a leader. Read through the characteristics of how he led **FAITH**-fully. Discuss these attributes and what role they play in discipleship:

Faithful
Accessible
Invested
Truthful*
Humble

**how can we be truthful and kind when helping others grow in their faith?*

Paul reminds Timothy of the community that formed him, the Spirit that is in him and the Word that instructed him.

1. How have these three aspects formed your faith?
2. Why is it important that these elements are present in our discipleship of others?
3. Reflecting on this series is discipleship a gift or a calling?
4. How has God challenged you today or in this series?