

LIFE GROUP APPLICATION QUESTIONS

2 Timothy Series

These questions are for the **August 11, 2024** message, "Preach the Word." Please read the sermon passage (2 Timothy 4:1-5) together out loud.

Passage Outline

PREACH THE WORD: "Tell us what God has said."

1. The serious nature of the charge: tell us what God has said. (1-2)
 - a. Preach the Word (2)
 - i. The Word is the fullness of God's message revealed in the Scriptures.
 - ii. Including the good news about Jesus, who is life and brings forgiveness.
 - iii. 'Preach' means to 'herald.'
 1. One sent in the name of the king.
 2. Who brings good news to those who listen and obey.
 - b. The seriousness of the charge (1)
 - i. Those who embark upon this mission are held to high standard (James 3:1).
 - ii. In the presence of God, and Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead.
2. The reason we need teachers devoted to telling us what God has said. (3-4)
 - a. The human tendency to wander (we would rather be lost).
 - b. The human tendency to sin (we would rather be enslaved).
3. The whole-person commitment required in telling us what God has said. (5)
 - a. Be sober-minded: thoughts. Stable. "Always keep your head."
 - b. Endure suffering: will. Spiritual stamina through dark valleys. (Heb 13:23)
 - c. Do the work of an evangelist: actions. Continue to tell the good news.
 - d. Fulfill your ministry: for life. Every aspect of ministry, all the way to the end.

Life Group Discussion Questions

1. Based on #1, above: The content of our message must be the powerful Word of God (2 Tim 3:15-16, John 1:1, Hebrews 4:12, John 17:17, Romans 10:17). Talk about the life-changing, dead-raising, galaxy-creating, sin-defeating power of God's Word.
2. Based on #1, above: In an effort to be relevant and to reduce friction, are there ways in which we have softened the way we speak God's Word? Talk about this: our generation is literally dying to know what God has said.
3. Based on #2, above: All of us are tempted to wander and all of us "accumulate teachers" who would approve of our own "idiosyncrasies" and sinful passions. We were all born with sinful tendencies which, if fed, would destroy us. Why does the "born this way" argument fall short for everyone?
4. Based on #3, above: The requirement is not merely for accurate academic messages. The teachers need to devote their whole lives to God (check out #3, above). Tell us about a teacher of God's Word that has made "what God says" clear to you, thus helping to save your life.