

LIFE GROUP APPLICATION QUESTIONS

2 Timothy Series

These questions are for the **September 15, 2024** message, "Come Before Winter." Please read the sermon passage (2 Timothy 4:16-22) together out loud.

Passage Outline

AS WE CONSIDER HOW GOD HAS GRACIOUSLY WORKED, NOTE . . .

1. The Faithfulness Our Lord has Exhibited. (16-18)
 - a. The Apostle Paul noted, "At my first defense, no one came to stand by me..." (16)
 - b. "But the Lord stood by me and strengthened me..." (17)
 - c. God's past faithfulness instills in us a future hope. (18)
2. The Fellowship Our Lord has Provided. (19-21)
 - a. Even when isolated in the moment, the Apostle Paul was integrated with others. (19)
 - b. When life broke down, the Apostle Paul kept his relationships at the forefront. (20-21)
3. The Farewells Our Lord has Honored. (22)
 - a. As the Apostle Paul passes the baton, he points others to God's grace. (22)

Life Group Discussion Questions

1. Asking us to consider how the Apostle Paul's experience might resemble our own at times, Pastor Gary asked the question, "Have you ever felt so defenseless—so alone, with all of your life on trial?" We can often feel a sense of loneliness when we experience challenges, or when we are in the midst of suffering. And yet, we are assured that God will never leave us. ***How does knowing that you are not alone change the "look and feel" of suffering? What difference does the presence of God make?***
2. 2 Timothy 4:20-21 reveals the value of introducing sustainability in our relationships. In other words, we build relationships so that they last when life breaks down. ***What are some ways that you can work now to build relationships that will stand the test of time?***
3. Life offers many opportunities to navigate change. In 2 Timothy 4:22, as the Apostle Paul was preparing to "pass the baton" to Timothy and others who would continue on in ministry after him, he expressed a blessing: "Grace be with you." ***As you move to the end of a particular ministry season or opportunity, how can you demonstrate grace, and emphasize its importance to those who will come after you? How can you show grace when it feels like that opportunity is being taken from you against your will?***