

LIFE GROUP APPLICATION QUESTIONS

2 Timothy Series

These questions are for the **April 7, 2024** message, "According to the promise." Please read the sermon passage (2 Timothy 1:1-7) together out loud.

Passage Outline

AS WE CONSIDER THE PROMISE OF LIFE IN CHRIST, NOTE . . .

1. The transformation that God produces. (1)
 - a. Paul is the man who persecuted Christians (Acts 7), approved of executions. (Acts 8:1)
 - i. Yet he was met and converted by the Lord Jesus. (Acts 9:1)
 - ii. He was taught and disciplined by faithful Christ-followers.
 - b. No one has descended so far that the grace of God cannot reach her.
 - c. "By the will of God" means our troubles are appointed, have purpose and teach us.
2. The discipleship that God prioritizes. (2a)
 - a. Paul has taken responsibility to pour into Timothy, both initially and continually.
 - b. He views Timothy as a son, and pours into him sacrificially, faithfully and intentionally.
3. The blessings that God provides. (2b)
 - a. Grace: unmerited favor which cannot be earned.
 - b. Mercy: the absorption of judgment by Christ.
 - c. Peace: shalom or "wholeness": we can be whole even in the midst of brokenness.

Life Group Discussion Questions

1. Based on #1, above: As Paul begins his letter, the story of his conversion and call to ministry is on all our minds. God chooses to reach and transform the violent, the vile, the rebel. Reflect upon Paul's transformation (Acts 8, 9). Which change (character, mission, love of Jesus alone) most amazes you.
2. Based on #1, above: How has God placed people in your life that need transformation? Why is it crucial to pray for them and give them room to change? Who should we be praying for?
3. Based on #2, above: In every healthy Christian's life there is someone who pours into them (a discipler) and someone that he/she is called to pour into (disciple). If you are a parent, it's easy to identify your disciples! Who else are you pouring into? Who are you teaching? Encouraging? Is that relationship formal or casual?
4. Based on #3, above: Even while Paul awaited a bad outcome (he anticipated execution), he emphasized and experienced "grace," "mercy," and "peace" in Christ. What are your challenges? How are you improving at having and commending "grace, mercy and peace"? What steps could you take to treasure/appreciate grace? What steps could you take to cultivate and embrace the peace of God?