

# What Are You Going To Do About What You Know?

## Chapter 18

### Audio Lesson: New Testament #72



Objective: To understand Paul's last instructions.



*And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others.*

– 2 Timothy 2:2

*All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.*

– 2 Timothy 3:16-17

*For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time for my departure is near. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for His appearing.*

– 2 Timothy 4:6-8

Second Timothy is Paul's last recorded words before he was executed for his faith in Christ. At the end of chapter 2, he gave instructions to Timothy and other pastors on how to counsel or help those who were opposing themselves, or living in opposition to the plan that God had for their lives. These people were not allowing God's truth to rule in their lives and had been taken captive by the devil. Jesus came to set men free. Pastors cannot deliver anyone from Satan, but they can be agents of the Holy Spirit as they speak truth to them and pray for them.

The heart of 2 Timothy is 3:10-4:5. Paul reminded Timothy of the things that he knew through their close relationship and through Paul's teaching. Verse 2:2 says that Timothy had heard Paul teach among many witnesses, and Paul exhorted him to instruct faithful men so that they could teach others. Paul urged Timothy to continue in the things he had learned and to preach the Word.

Paul told Timothy to try to visit before winter, but scholars believe he was executed sooner than expected. Timothy must have been heart-broken that he did not make it in time to see his pastor, spiritual father, and friend before Paul went to Jesus. Paul wrote that he had fought the good fight, had finished the race, and had kept the faith. He knew that he would soon be with Jesus, who would give him a crown of righteousness.

1. True or False? Paul wrote to Timothy because he was afraid Timothy did not know what he needed to know to keep the faith.



2. True or False? After this letter, Timothy never saw Paul again.
3. True or False? Paul urged Timothy to rely on his own wisdom when he counseled others.
4. True or False? Pastors can make people repent if they try hard enough.
5. True or False? Paul was not bitter that everyone had deserted him.

*Unless otherwise noted, choose one answer for each question.*

6. What were Paul's instructions about counseling people who oppose themselves? (Choose all that apply)
  - a. Fix all of their problems.
  - b. Do not counsel people with problems. It is too hard.
  - c. Gently instruct them in the truth.
  - d. Pray that the Holy Spirit will deliver them from the devil's snare.
7. What was Paul's strategy for teaching God's Word?
  - a. Teaching disciples to memorize Scripture and rituals
  - b. Training disciples to go on long mission trips
  - c. Encourage disciples to suffer in prisons
  - d. Teaching disciples so they can teach others
8. Paul wrote that Timothy knew many things about him. What were some of those things? (Choose all that apply)
  - a. His teaching and preaching of the Gospel
  - b. His purpose and faith in the Gospel
  - c. His mission and suffering for the Gospel
  - d. All of the above

9. Second Timothy 3:16 is a key verse. What are some of the points that Paul makes about scripture? (Choose all that apply)

- a. It is all inspired by God.
- b. It is useful to teach and train.
- c. It is only a book filled with good advice.
- d. It equips people to do good works.

10. What did Paul encourage Timothy to keep doing?

- a. Pastor the church in Lystra
- b. Preach the Word
- c. Check on Philemon and Onesimus
- d. Stop complaining



At the end of Paul's life, he told Timothy that he had fought the good fight, finished the race, and kept the faith. At the end of your life, will you be able to say the same thing? What are you going to do with what you have learned?

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Paul, like Moses, knew what we call the Four Spiritual Secrets: "I am not a deliverer, but God is the Deliverer." "I cannot deliver anyone, only God can deliver." "I often do not want to be a deliverer, but God wants to use me to be a deliverer." And when God delivers and saves someone, to confess: "I did not deliver anyone, but God did."

Paul challenged Timothy to keep preaching and teaching the Word, because it is not about who we are, what we can do, or even what we want to do. To know these four spiritual truths is to realize that it is all about Who God is, what God can do, and what God wants to do. When God delivers and saves, we give Him all the glory. We are happiest and most fulfilled when we are living in obedience to God. How are you going to apply these four spiritual truths to your life? What are you going to do with all you have learned during this course of study?

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Praise God for Paul's example of keeping the faith even in the worst circumstances. Thank God for this study of Paul's letters. Ask God to help you teach others by your words and your examples. Ask Him to help you to put into practice all that you have learned.



## Going Deeper

1. What is your personal application to the way that Timothy knows all the things Paul reminds him that he knows about him, Paul, from close personal observation? \_\_\_\_\_

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2. How can you personally relate and apply this to the way Jesus chose twelve men to be with Him and then to send them out according to Mark 3: 13-14? \_\_\_\_\_

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3. Relate and apply this to the impact of the Great Commission of Jesus as stated in Matthew 28: 18-20. \_\_\_\_\_

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4. In some translations, the Great Commission of Jesus reads that the apostles and those they have made disciples are to teach their disciples everything Jesus commanded them to observe in their seminary year-round for three years. How long would that take and how do you apply this practice of Jesus and Paul? \_\_\_\_\_

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5. In what ways are you willing to trace and apply the relationship between Paul and Timothy from the time it started in Lystra until the time when Timothy received this letter, and to let that experience challenge you to find a Timothy if you are a mature believer, and seek a Paul if you are a young believer? \_\_\_\_\_

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6. How do you apply the value of Timothy being a third-generation believer and disciple of Jesus? \_\_\_\_\_

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7. How has your applying these letters of Paul to Timothy impacted your life and ministry? \_\_\_\_\_

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