



**The Oaks
Baptist Church**
Grand Prairie, Texas



Lesson Leader:
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Class Leaders:
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**Perseverance
in Leadership
A Study in 2 Timothy**

Date	Lesson	Text
06/28	Introduction	
06/28	Perseverance in Heritage	1:1-18
07/12	Perseverance in Work	2:1-13
07/19	Perseverance in Character	2:14-26
07/26	Perseverance in Following	3:10-17
08/02	Perseverance in Word	4:1-8
08/09	Summary & Review	

Next Series

Guest Teachers

- 08/16 - Bro. Bill White
- 08/23 - Bro. Don Smarto

Ephesians -

Glory of God in the Church

- Starting 08/30
- Led by James Haymon

REVIEW AND SUMMARY

2 TIMOTHY

Let's close by highlighting several important areas to consider.

Paul challenges us to be faithful in the proclamation and the practice of the truth in our generation. Paul knew that in his days men were becoming increasingly hostile and resistant to the gospel and the truths of God's Word. He knew that Timothy, as a Christian, would have to oppose the culture. How easy it would be to compromise the message, or to simply keep quiet. Timothy was to stand firm in his faith and practice. Can we not see that our times are very much like those of Paul? In days gone by our laws protected us when we sought to practice or to proclaim our faith. Now, it would seem, the tables are being turned. Paul felt the same way about his own times. We need to faithfully hold to the truths of God's Word, and to both proclaim and practice them.

Paul challenges us to pass the faith on to the next generation. Paul's life was almost over. He was soon going to be with the Lord. The apostle is clearly passing the torch on to Timothy, and likewise he is urging Timothy to pass the torch on to others, who in turn will pass it on to others. Here is a most vital duty and privilege – to preserve the faith and to pass it on, intact, to others. Let us not fail to pass it on to others as Timothy did, and as others have done throughout church history.

Paul seeks to prepare us for the persecution that is coming, especially as the last days draw near. Timothy had seen his share of persecution in his travels with Paul. Nevertheless, Paul seems to sense that even more difficult times lie ahead for Timothy and others. He knows that he will suffer, and (perhaps as a result) others will suffer as well, if they hold fast to the faith. Paul tells us to "toughen up" as we prepare for the hard times ahead. I cannot help but see Paul's words to Timothy as having a very prophetic message for saints who live in America today. We have known peace and prosperity as Christians, but we must acknowledge that we are the exception, and not the rule. Since suffering for the faith is the rule, we had better be prepared for hard times.

Paul challenges us to find the Scriptures absolutely accurate, authoritative, and sufficient for ministry to others (as well as to ourselves). When Paul first left the Ephesian elders on their own he commended them to God and to the word of His grace: And now I entrust you to God and to the message of his grace. This message is able to build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified (Acts 20:32). As Paul prepares to leave this earth and to leave Timothy behind, he once again commends the Word of God as sufficient for all our spiritual needs. Many today would affirm that they believe the Bible is God's Word, and that it is inspired. A number would acknowledge that it is not only inspired, but inerrant. But all too few find it sufficient. It is, as Paul reminds us.

Finally, Paul warns us about the dangers of "word wrangling." "Word wrangling" is not wrestling with the Scriptures, seeking to "rightly divide the word of truth." It is a departure from the Word, by engaging in speculation and theoretical discussions which are not rooted in the Bible, which do not promote the gospel and God's kingdom, and which do not promote godly living. It is, in Jesus' words, all about "straining gnats while swallowing camels" (Matthew 23:24). It is about unprofitable debates and arguments over trivialities, or even speculative myths. It is about winning arguments rather than winning lost sinners to Christ. It is about ego and self-indulgence, rather than about humble service and self-denial. Let us beware of "word wrangling."

(Excerpts from "Creation to the Cross" by Bob Deffinbaugh)

NOTES AND CROSS-REFERENCES

PERSEVERANCE IN CHRISTIAN HERITAGE

HERITAGE THROUGH FAMILY TRAINING (2 TIM 1:3-5)

Through prayers (vs 3-4)

Through faith passed on (vs 5)

HERITAGE THROUGH THE GIFT AND POWER OF GOD (2 TIM 1:6-10)

Gift of power (vs 7)

Gift of love (vs 7)

Gift of sound mind (vs 7)

Gift of a holy calling (vs 9-10)

BUILDING ON THE HERITAGE (2 TIM 1:11-18)

Appointment to teach and preach (vs 11-12)

Holding fast to sound doctrine (vs 13-18)

PERSEVERANCE IN CHRISTIAN WORK

TEACH SOUND DOCTRINE (2 TIM 2:1-2)

Teach with strength through grace (vs 1)

Teach what has been confirmed (vs 2)

Be faithful in teaching (vs 2)

BE DISCIPLINED (2 TIM 2:3-6)

Be disciplined in hardship (vs 3)

Be disciplined by not getting entangled with the affairs of this life (vs 4)

Be disciplined in obedience to God's rules (vs 5)

Be disciplined by living what is being taught (vs 6)

BE ENCOURAGED BY GOD'S WORD (2 TIM 2:7-9)

Encouraged that God gives the understanding of His Word (vs 7)

Encouraged through the truth of the gospel (vs 8)

Encouraged by the freedom of God's Word (vs 9)

ENDURE ALL THINGS (2 TIM 2:10-13)

Endure for the sake of the elect and their salvation (vs 10)

Endure knowing we will live with Jesus (vs 11)

Endure knowing we will reign with Jesus (vs 12)

Endure knowing if we don't deny Him, He won't deny us (vs 12)

Endure knowing that Jesus is faithful (vs 13)

PERSEVERANCE IN CHRISTIAN CHARACTER

STAYING IN THE TRUTH (2 TIM 2:14-18)

By persevering (vs 14)

By studying the Bible (vs 15)

By avoiding unfounded doctrine (vs 16-18)

STAYING AWAY FROM INIQUITY (2 TIM 2:19-22)

By being separated from iniquity (vs 19)

By honoring God (vs 20-21)

By pursuing godliness (vs 22)

BRING OTHERS TO THE TRUTH (2 TIM 2:23-26)

By avoiding quarrels (vs 23)

By instructing others in the truth (vs 24-25)

By rescuing others from the devil (vs 26)

PERSEVERANCE IN FOLLOWING GODLY MENTORS

PAUL'S EXAMPLE IN MINISTRY (2 TIM 3:10-13)

His Core Values (vs. 10)

His Persecutions (vs. 11, 12)

His Opponents (vs. 13)

TIMOTHY'S EXPERIENCE IN LEARNING (2 TIM 3:14-17)

Learning from Mentors (vs. 14-15)

Learning from Scripture (vs. 16-17)

PERSEVERANCE IN GOD'S WORD

PERSEVERANCE IN MINISTRY (2 TIM 4:1-8)

Perseverance is the ultimate evaluation of an evangelist (vs. 1)

Perseverance in proclaiming God's Word (vs. 1-2)

Perseverance is the tireless task of an evangelist (vs. 2-4)

Perseverance in truth knowing some people will not endure sound doctrine (vs. 3-4)

Perseverance is the hard work of an evangelist (vs. 5)

Perseverance with attention to duty (vs 5)

Final reward for perseverance (vs. 6-8)