

BE A BRINGER

“40 One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. 41 He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated, the Christ). 42 And he brought him to Jesus....” John 1:40-42a

A bringer makes one touch each week by investing and inviting someone to Christ and church.

Name three people you will pray for their salvation this week:

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE WEEK

“Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you;....” I Samuel 12:23a



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FEARLESS
2TIMOTHY
GROWTH GUIDE

Handout: 6/11/2017
Study: 06/18/17

Fearless—Preach the Word

2 Timothy 4:1-2

In this passage Paul gives Timothy a solemn charge. "I charge thee" should read "I solemnly witness." This was a serious moment, and Paul wanted Timothy to sense the importance of it. It was serious, not only because Paul was facing death, but even more because both Paul and Timothy would be judged one day when Jesus Christ appeared. It would do us all good to occasionally reflect on the fact that one day we will face God and our works will be judged.

For one thing, this realization would encourage us to do our work carefully and faithfully. It would also deliver us from the fear of man; for, after all, our final Judge is God. Finally, the realization that God will one day judge our works encourages us to keep going even when we face difficulties. We are serving Him, not ourselves.

"Preach the Word!" is the main responsibility that Paul shared in this section. Everything else he said is related to this. The word "preach" means "to preach like a herald." In Paul's day, a ruler had a special herald who made announcements to the people. He was commissioned by the ruler to make his announcements in a loud, clear voice so everyone could hear. He was not an ambassador with the privilege of negotiating; he was a messenger with a proclamation to be heard and heeded. Not to heed the ruler's messenger was serious; to abuse the messenger was even worse.

Timothy was to herald God's Word with the authority of heaven behind him. The Word of God is what both sinners and saints need. It is a pity that many churches have substituted other things for the preaching of the Word, things that may be good in their place, but that are bad when they replace the proclamation of the Word. In my own pastoral ministry, I have seen what the preaching of the Word can do in churches and in individual lives; and I affirm that *nothing can take its place*.

Timothy should be diligent and alert to use every opportunity to preach the Word, when it is favorable and even when it is not favorable. *It is easy to make excuses when we ought to be making opportunities*. Paul himself always found an opportunity to share the Word, whether it was in the temple courts, on a stormy sea, or even in prison. "He that observeth the wind shall not sow; and he that regardeth the clouds shall not reap" (Ecclesiastes 11:4). Stop making excuses and Preach the Word!

(The Bible Exposition Commentary)

KEY VERSE

2 Timothy 4:2

“Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching.”

WEEKLY READINGS

Monday: 2 Timothy 3:14-4:4

Introduction

On a scale of 1 to 10, how well would you say that you know the Bible?

What are some steps you can take to know it better?

Tuesday: 2 Timothy 3:14-15; Joshua 1:8

Continue in What You Have Learned

In what was Timothy to continue? What had he known since childhood? Do you remember from Chapter One who taught him?

What is the value in what he has known?

Wednesday: 2 Timothy 3:16-17; Hebrews 4:12

Importance of Scripture

How was Scripture given?

Why is Scripture valuable?

What does Scripture produce?

Thursday: 2 Timothy 4:1-2; 1 Corinthians 1:17-18

Preach the Word

What do you think of when you hear the word, “preach”?

Whose job is it to preach? Is it the Pastor’s job or every Christian’s job?

What does it mean to be ready in season and out of season?

Friday: 2 Timothy 4:3-4; 2 Corinthians 4:1-6

Itchy Ears

What does it mean that people will have itchy ears?

What will people do when their ears are itchy?

What are some signs that a person’s ears might be itchy?

How do we hold fast to the truth?