



Study Guide

Lesson 1

“Serve Passionately”

2 Timothy 1

When Paul wrote the letter we know as 2 Timothy, his situation had changed drastically. He was now a prisoner in Rome and was facing certain death (2 Tim. 4:6). For one reason or another, almost all of Paul’s associates in the ministry were gone and only Luke was at the apostle’s side to assist him (2 Tim. 4:11). It was a dark hour indeed.

But Paul’s great concern was not for himself; it was for Timothy and the success of the Gospel ministry. As in his First Letter to Timothy, Paul encouraged his beloved colleague to be faithful. As we have learned, Timothy was timid, suffered from physical ailments, and was tempted to let other people take advantage of him and not assert his authority as a preacher with the apostles laying on of hands.

Paul sent Tychicus to replace Timothy at Ephesus so that Timothy might join Paul at Rome (2 Tim. 4:9, 12). God would soon move Paul off the scene, and Timothy would take his place and continue to give spiritual leadership to the churches. It would not be an easy task, but Timothy could succeed with the Lord’s help. In his first chapter, Paul gave Timothy three essentials that he must possess to have success.

Courageous Enthusiasm

1:1-7

1. The ministry of the Gospel is no place for a “timid soul” who lacks enthusiasm. In fact, courageous enthusiasm is essential for success in *any* kind of work. Paul compared this attitude to stirring up a fire into full flame (2 Tim. 1:6). We must not conclude that Timothy was backslidden or lacked spiritual fire. Rather, Paul was encouraging his associate to keep the fire burning brightly so that it might generate spiritual power in his life. Paul gave Timothy four encouragements. What were they?

- a) _____ (1:1-2) c) _____ (1:5)
b) _____ (1:3-4) d) _____ (1:6-7)

2. How did Timothy receive the gift Paul wanted fanned into a flame? _____ (1:6)

Shameless Suffering

1:8-12

1. “Not ashamed” is a key idea in this chapter: Paul was not ashamed (2 Tim. 1:12); he admonished Timothy not to be ashamed (2 Tim. 1:8); and he reported that Onesiphorus was not ashamed of Paul’s chain (2 Tim. 1:16). List the two areas Timothy must not be ashamed.

- a) Do not be _____ of the _____ (1:8-10)
b) Do not be _____ of the _____ (1:11-12)

2. Give the reasons we should not be ashamed? a) _____ b) _____

Spiritual Loyalty

1:13-18

1. List the two things that Paul commanded Timothy to be loyal to:

- a). _____
b.) _____

2. Who had often refreshed Paul in his journeys? _____