

2 Timothy 4:6-8 Part 11 Participants Guide – 2 Timothy Series

The Main Idea: “The good fight I have fought, the course I have finished, the faith I have kept.”

Discussion Questions:

- Read through the book of 2 Timothy 4:6-8. Jot down what stands out to you.
- Read 2 Timothy 4:6, Numbers 15:1-10, Romans 12:1, Philippians 2:17. Paul is saying here. “I have just poured out my life as a drink offering on the sacrifice of Christ.” Paul’s life would soon disappear, and all that could be seen was Christ. What thoughts does this bring to your mind? Do you see your life in that same light?

- Read 2 Timothy 4:6, John 10:18, 1 Corinthians 15:53–55; Isaiah 25:8; Hosea 13:14 Agree or disagree? .

I’m like a ship that has been tied up at the harbor. When death comes, I’m taking off to go and be with Christ, which will be far better

- Read the Theodore Roosevelt speech. How does this make you feel?
- Read 2 Timothy 4:7, 2 Corinthians 11:23-27, 1 Corinthians 9:25, Luke 13:24, Colossians 1:29, 4:12. Paul recognized that he was in a Spiritual Struggle, both from the Outside and the Inside. Read the quote below and interact with it.

It had been a fight against Satan; against the principalities and powers, the world-rulers of this darkness in the heavenlies; against Jewish and pagan vice and violence; against Judaism among the Galatians; against fanaticism among the Thessalonians; against contention, fornication, and litigation among the Corinthians; against incipient Gnosticism among the Ephesians and Colossians; against fightings without and fears within; and last but not least, against the law of sin and death operating within his own heart. (New Testament Commentary: Expositions of the Pastoral Epistles [Grand Rapids: Baker, 1965], 315

- Read 2 Timothy 4:7, Hebrews 12:1, Proverbs 4:25-27. Agree or Disagree with the statement. Why?

No one, not even Paul, Chooses his or her Course

- 2 Timothy 4:7 Paul “Keep the Faith” which means to guard a treasure, Paul Treasured his Faith. The first requirement for keeping that treasure is to recognize that it is a treasure. How did the story of the Blind French girl affect you?

Lord does not require success, only faithfulness

- Read 2 Timothy 4:8, Matthew 6:20, 1 Timothy 6:18–19, Matthew 16:27, Psalm 62:12, Hebrews 11:6, Proverbs 24:12, Philippians 3:14. What is being stored up for followers of Jesus? Certain rewards that believers will receive or not receive will be individual, based on their own faithfulness. Read Matthew 25:29, 2 Corinthians 5:10, 1 Corinthians 3:13–15

- 2 Timothy 4:8 refers to the Crown. The Crown. - Stephanos, was used of wreaths or garlands that were placed on the heads of dignitaries, military victors, and winners of athletic contests as a mark of great honor. It was a Stephanos of thorns that Pilate’s soldiers placed on Jesus’ head as they mockingly hailed Him as “King of the Jews!”

Crowns in the Bible

- The Crown of Rejoicing. Philippians 4:1 – For leading others to faith in Jesus
- The Crown of Righteousness 2 Timothy 4:8 - for eagerly awaiting Christ return
- The Crown of Life. James 1:12 - for suffering for the glory of God.
- The Crown of Glory 1 Peter 5:4 - reserve for elders and ministers who serve congregation willingly faithfully and consistently
- The Crown of Mastery 1 Corinthians 9:25 for keeping the flesh in subjection

It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbled or where the doer of deeds could have done better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood, who strives valiantly; who errs, and comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; who does actually try to do the deed; who knows the great enthusiasm, the great devotion, and spends himself in a worthy cause; who, at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly. Far better is it to dare mighty things, to win glorious triumphs, even though checked by failure, than to rank with those poor spirits who neither enjoy nor suffer much because they live in a gray twilight that knows neither victory nor defeat. (Theodore Roosevelt From speech on the strenuous life, Hamilton Club, Chicago, April 10, 1899)

- **it is a Crown of Righteousness. Look at the passages below that speak about what is Righteousness is.**
The reward is in recognition of righteousness shaped in Paul by the Holy Spirit. Read Matthew 5:6, Galatians 5:5, Romans 14:17
Righteousness:
 - When we believed in Christ as Savior and Lord, He imputed His righteousness to us. Romans 4:6, 11
 - We live out our lives in Christ, His Holy Spirit works practical righteousness in us and through us. Romans 6:13, 19; 8:4; Ephesians 5:9; 1 Peter 2:24
 - Yet because of sin, which clings to us like an old dirty garment, we must battle against unrighteousness. It is only at the completion of that battle that His righteousness will be perfected in us, when we receive the very crown of righteousness from the Lord's own hands.
- **2 Timothy 4:8, Philippians 3:20. "Are You Too Heavenly Minded to do Any Earthly Good?" the saying goes, but I think the truth is when we switch it around, *Too Earthly Minded to be any Heavenly Good. Which one are you?***

Action:

- How are you doing in the Ring?
- What is the Course God has set you on?
- How are you doing in "Treasuring the Faith?"
- Are you living a life that you are proud of when Jesus takes you home or returns?

PRAYER REQUESTS