



God calls all of us to be spiritual parents who help other people (especially our children) to know Jesus Christ and to grow in a friendship with Him.

Daily Devotions

April 17 – June 25

As you read each day's Bible passage:



READ. Pray before you read, asking God to speak to you. Read slowly through the passage.



REFLECT. What is God saying to you? Is God asking you to:

- Trust His promise?
- Receive His encouragement?
- Obey His command?
- Stop a bad habit?
- Serve another person?

In a few sentences write what you think God is saying to you.



RESPOND

Write a short prayer to God thanking Him for ministering to you through this passage and expressing what you will do in response.



Monday April 17

1 Timothy 1:1-2

1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the command of God our Savior and of Christ Jesus our hope,

²To Timothy my true son in the faith:

Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

Acts 16:1-5

6 Paul came to Derbe and then to Lystra, where a disciple named Timothy lived, whose mother was Jewish and a believer but whose father was a Greek. ²The believers at Lystra and Iconium spoke well of him. ³Paul wanted to take him along on the journey, so he circumcised him because of the Jews who lived in that area, for they all knew that his father was a Greek. ⁴As they traveled from town to town, they delivered the decisions reached by the apostles and elders in Jerusalem for the people to obey. ⁵So the churches were strengthened in the faith and grew daily in numbers.

Philippians 2:22-23

²²But you know that Timothy has proved himself, because as a son with his father he has served with me in the work of the gospel. ²³I hope, therefore, to send him as soon as I see how things go with me.

1 Thessalonians 3:2

²We sent Timothy, who is our brother and co-worker in God's service in spreading the gospel of Christ, to strengthen and encourage you in your faith,

1. How did Timothy meet the Apostle Paul (Acts 16:1-5)? In Acts 15, Paul and other Christian leaders decided that Gentile converts to Christianity did not have to be circumcised. What do we learn about Timothy's faith and ministry in Acts 16:1-5?
2. What was the relationship between Paul and Timothy (1 Timothy 1:2; Philippians 2:22-23; 1 Thessalonians 3:2)? What do you find interesting about their relationship?
3. Who was a spiritual parent who served you in your Christian growth? Thank God for that person and how they assisted your Christian growth.
4. Take time to personally thank that person for building into your life as a Christ follower.



Tuesday April 18

1 Timothy 1:3-7

³ As I urged you when I went into Macedonia, stay there in Ephesus so that you may command certain people not to teach false doctrines any longer ⁴ or to devote themselves to myths and endless genealogies. Such things promote controversial speculations rather than advancing God's work—which is by faith. ⁵ The goal of this command is love, which comes from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith. ⁶ Some have departed from these and have turned to meaningless talk. ⁷ They want to be teachers of the law, but they do not know what they are talking about or what they so confidently affirm.

1. What were the problems plaguing the church in Ephesus (verses 3-4)? What is at the root of these problems?
2. What are similar problems in the church today? Why are they serious? How does Paul say that God wants us to address them?
3. Explain in your own words the three qualities in verse 5 that the Lord wants us to cultivate in our lives. Why are they so important?
4. Of the three qualities that Paul lists in verse 5, which one would you most like to cultivate in your life? In prayer, talk with the Lord about how you want to grow this quality with His help.
5. Whom are you serving as their spiritual parent? In what ways are you serving them? Pray that the Lord will continue to use you in their spiritual growth.



Wednesday April 19

1 Timothy 1:8-11

⁸ We know that the law is good if one uses it properly. ⁹ We also know that the law is made not for the righteous but for lawbreakers and rebels, the ungodly and sinful, the unholy and irreligious, for those who kill their fathers or mothers, for murderers, ¹⁰ for the sexually immoral, for those practicing homosexuality, for slave traders and liars and perjurers—and for whatever else is contrary to the sound doctrine ¹¹ that conforms to the gospel concerning the glory of the blessed God, which he entrusted to me.

1. From these verses, what is the purpose of God's law?
2. What does it mean to use God's law properly?
3. Jesus warns us of the eternal punishment of committing murder by getting angry with another person and of committing immorality by lusting at a member of the opposite sex (Matthew 5:21-22; 27-30). How has God's law shown you how you have lived contrary to the sound doctrine that prepares us to live in the presence of a glorious and holy God (1 Timothy 1:9-11)?
4. How has God's law shown you your need for the gospel?
5. How is the gospel good news to you? Thank the Lord for that.



Thursday April 20

1 Timothy 1:12-14

¹² I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has given me strength, that he considered me trustworthy, appointing me to his service. ¹³ Even though I was once a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent man, I was shown mercy because I acted in ignorance and unbelief. ¹⁴ The grace of our Lord was poured out on me abundantly, along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.

1. For what does Paul thank Christ? How can these blessings improve a person's life?
2. Which of these blessings have you received in your life? What do they mean to you personally? Thank the Lord for that.
3. In verse 13 Paul tells us what he was like before he met Christ. What were you like before you knew Christ? How has Christ changed you?
4. Tell a Christian friend how the Lord has changed you and improved your life.



Friday April 21

1 Timothy 1:15-17

¹⁵ Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst. ¹⁶ But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his immense patience as an example for those who would believe in him and receive eternal life. ¹⁷ Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

1. Why is someone like Paul such a good witness to unbelievers?
2. How do you feel about talking about your past life when you share your faith? What would you find difficult to share about from your past? Why?
3. As you consider parts of your past which you are afraid to share with other people, how confident are you that the Lord has completely forgiven you? Talk with the Lord about that.
4. Where do you need Christ's mercy and unlimited patience in your life right now? Ask Christ for that.
5. Consider a non Christian friend who is struggling in life and looking for hope. Share with them how the Lord has changed you and improved your life.



Saturday April 22

1 Timothy 1:18-20

¹⁸ Timothy, my son, I am giving you this command in keeping with the prophecies once made about you, so that by recalling them you may fight the battle well, ¹⁹ holding on to faith and a good conscience, which some have rejected and so have suffered shipwreck with regard to the faith. ²⁰ Among them are Hymenaeus and Alexander, whom I have handed over to Satan to be taught not to blaspheme.

Ephesians 6:10-12

¹⁰ Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. ¹¹ Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. ¹² For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

1. Against what are Christ followers fighting?

2. How has God's enemy been attacking you personally?

3. How does Paul urge us to fight the battle well (1 Timothy 1:19; Ephesians 6:10-12)? How do we do this practically in everyday life?

4. How has God helped you to fight the battle well in your life? Praise God for those victories.

5. Where are you struggling in fighting the battle well? Ask God to help you fight better. What is the Lord urging you to do in order to receive His help in fighting the battle? Commit to do that.



Sunday April 23

1 Timothy 1:18-20

¹⁸ Timothy, my son, I am giving you this command in keeping with the prophecies once made about you, so that by recalling them you may fight the battle well, ¹⁹ holding on to faith and a good conscience, which some have rejected and so have suffered shipwreck with regard to the faith. ²⁰ Among them are Hymenaeus and Alexander, whom I have handed over to Satan to be taught not to blaspheme.

2 Timothy 2:16-19

¹⁶ Avoid godless chatter, because those who indulge in it will become more and more ungodly. ¹⁷ Their teaching will spread like gangrene. Among them are Hymenaeus and Philetus, ¹⁸ who have departed from the truth. They say that the resurrection has already taken place, and they destroy the faith of some. ¹⁹ Nevertheless, God's solid foundation stands firm, sealed with this inscription: "The Lord knows those who are his," and, "Everyone who confesses the name of the Lord must turn away from wickedness."

2 Timothy 4:14-15

¹⁴ Alexander the metalworker did me a great deal of harm. The Lord will repay him for what he has done. ¹⁵ You too should be on your guard against him, because he strongly opposed our message.

1. How might have Hymenaeus shipwrecked his faith (1 Timothy 1:18-20; 2 Timothy 2:16-19)?
2. How might have Alexander shipwrecked his faith (1 Timothy 1:18-20; 2 Timothy 4:14-15)?
3. Explain in your own words how Paul dealt with Hymenaeus and Alexander? Why do you suppose he did that for both the church's sake and their sake?
4. How could you be vulnerable to shipwrecking your faith? Ask God to help you to resist this temptation?
5. Who do you know that is vulnerable to shipwrecking their faith? Ask the Lord how He would like you to minister to them. Follow God's guidance in serving them.



Monday April 24

1 Timothy 2:1-7

2 I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people—² for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. ³ This is good, and pleases God our Savior, ⁴ who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. ⁵ For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus, ⁶ who gave himself as a ransom for all people. This has now been witnessed to at the proper time. ⁷ And for this purpose I was appointed a herald and an apostle—I am telling the truth, I am not lying—and a true and faithful teacher of the Gentiles.

1. What is Paul urging in verses 1-4? For what purpose is Paul urging this?

2. How can the things that Paul is urging Christians to do in verses 1-4 actually achieve the purpose that is desired?

3. What are the different forms of prayer in verse 1? What does each one mean? Why is each one needed?

4. What assurance can Christians have when they pray (verses 3-6)?

5. Following Paul's guidelines in verses 1-4 pray for those in authority:
 - a) In our government.

 - b) In our church.



Wednesday April 26

1 Timothy 2:1-7

2 I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people—² for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. ³ This is good, and pleases God our Savior, ⁴ who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. ⁵ For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus, ⁶ who gave himself as a ransom for all people. This has now been witnessed to at the proper time. ⁷ And for this purpose I was appointed a herald and an apostle—I am telling the truth, I am not lying—and a true and faithful teacher of the Gentiles.

1. What is the purpose of Paul's life in verse 7?
2. In what ways has God called you to a similar purpose as that of Paul in your own life?
3. What work has Jesus Christ done in your life?
4. Thank God for calling you to His purpose of faithfully telling people about Jesus and the work that He has done in your life.
5. Commit to the Lord how you will pursue this calling this week.



Thursday April 27

1 Timothy 2:8

⁸Therefore I want the men everywhere to pray, lifting up holy hands without anger or disputing.

1. Why do you suppose that Paul commands the men everywhere to pray? Why is prayer so valuable?
2. What are important keys for effective prayer in this verse? What does Paul mean by “lifting up holy hands”? Why do these things lead to effective prayer?
3. Take time to pray for people in your family.
4. Take time to pray for some folks that you know at Cheyne.



Saturday April 29

1 Timothy 2:11-14

¹¹ A woman should learn in quietness and full submission. ¹² I do not permit a woman to teach or to assume authority over a man; she must be quiet. ¹³ For Adam was formed first, then Eve. ¹⁴ And Adam was not the one deceived; it was the woman who was deceived and became a sinner. ¹⁵ But women will be saved through childbearing—if they continue in faith, love and holiness with propriety.

Notes:

- a) Paul moves from the problem of women dressing with immodesty (perhaps to entice men) in verses 9-10 to the problem of women teaching with a domineering authority (verses 11-14).
 - b) In verse 11 Paul affirms the equal right that women had with men to learn in the church. This contrasts with how women in Roman culture were not encouraged to learn.
 - c) In verse 12, Paul is not forbidding women to teach, because elsewhere he affirms women's ability to teach in Romans 16:1-3; Philippians 4:2-3; and Acts 18:25-26. The problem is that in Ephesus the women were vulnerable to being misled by false teachers (who were rampant in Ephesus according to Paul's letters to Timothy). The women could be misled because they did not know the Scriptures well. Once these women were taught properly then they could teach.
 - d) In verse 12, "to teach or have authority" does not refer to two separate prohibitions (*women are not to teach and not to have authority over men*) but to a single prohibition (*women are not to teach men in a domineering way*). Every place where Paul uses this Greek conjunction *oude* ("or") it refers to a single coherent idea. In this case it seems likely that Paul is prohibiting women from teaching in a domineering way. It could be tempting for Christian women in Ephesus to dominate men in the Ephesian church because the biggest pagan temple there housed a female-only cult to the Greek goddess Diana (Artemis) in which the priests were all women.
 - e) In the phrase "to have authority" in verse 12, the Greek word that Paul uses for "authority" often means "domineering" or "pushing one's own way." It is likely that Paul is prohibiting women who have been involved in false teaching from dominating the male leaders.
 - f) In verse 12, the phrase "she must be silent" refers back to the phrase "in quietness and submission" in verse 11, which indicates a readiness to do God's will. Once women have learned the truth from God's Word, then they could teach.
 - g) In verses 13-14, Paul uses certain texts from Genesis 2-3 as his rationale for his prohibitions. The women who were vulnerable to false teachers in Ephesus were being deceived and were sinning as Eve did.
1. What is God saying through this passage about how women are to learn His Word?
 2. What is God saying through this passage about when and how women can teach men and women in the church?
 3. Ask God to help you to learn His Word in quietness and full submission.



Sunday April 30

1 Timothy 2:15

¹⁵ But women will be saved through childbearing—if they continue in faith, love and holiness with propriety.

Notes

This has been a very difficult verse to translate. It probably refers (as the Church fathers understood it) to the childbearing through the woman of that Seed who would overcome Satan and the effect of the fall (Genesis 3), namely Jesus Christ. He is the only One through whom Paul ever says we are saved. The childbearing mentioned here refers to the birth of Jesus Christ. Women (and men) are saved spiritually because of the most important birth, that of Christ Himself.

1. From the verse and its note, what is Paul saying here?
2. What does it mean to be saved?
3. According to this verse, what does a person need to do in order to be saved?
4. Thank God for saving you and what that means to you. Commit to continue in faith, love and holiness with propriety. Tell the Lord how you will do that, enabled by His power.



Monday May 1

1 Timothy 3:1-7

3 Here is a trustworthy saying: Whoever aspires to be an overseer desires a noble task. ² Now the overseer is to be above reproach, faithful to his wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, ³ not given to drunkenness, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. ⁴ He must manage his own family well and see that his children obey him, and he must do so in a manner worthy of full respect. ⁵ (If anyone does not know how to manage his own family, how can he take care of God's church?) ⁶ He must not be a recent convert, or he may become conceited and fall under the same judgment as the devil. ⁷ He must also have a good reputation with outsiders, so that he will not fall into disgrace and into the devil's trap.

“Overseer” is synonymous with “elder” which is the name we use for church leaders at Cheyne.

1. Why do you think that being an “overseer” or “elder” is a noble task?
2. What qualities should we look for in an elder in verses 2-3? Why are they necessary to lead God's church?
3. Although applied specifically for leaders, these qualities are important for all Christians. Which of these qualities has the Lord been building in your life? Praise Him for that.
4. Which qualities does the Lord want you to improve? Talk with the Lord about how you will build those traits with His help.
5. Pray for these elders at Cheyne: Georgina Burley, Bob Ferrier, Ron French, and Tim Illman,



Tuesday May 2

1 Timothy 3:1-7

3 Here is a trustworthy saying: Whoever aspires to be an overseer desires a noble task. ² Now the overseer is to be above reproach, faithful to his wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, ³ not given to drunkenness, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. ⁴ He must manage his own family well and see that his children obey him, and he must do so in a manner worthy of full respect. ⁵ (If anyone does not know how to manage his own family, how can he take care of God's church?) ⁶ He must not be a recent convert, or he may become conceited and fall under the same judgment as the devil. ⁷ He must also have a good reputation with outsiders, so that he will not fall into disgrace and into the devil's trap.

1. What qualifications for church leadership are described in verses 4-5?
2. Why are these qualifications necessary for leading God's church?
3. Although applied specifically for leaders, these qualities are important for all Christians. Ask God how well you are doing with these qualities. How does the Lord want you to improve at them?
4. Commit to work on them as God guides you.
5. Pray for these elders at Cheyne: Ann Isaak, Steve Isaak, Faye Lee, and Barry Mason,



Wednesday May 3

1 Timothy 3:1-7

3 Here is a trustworthy saying: Whoever aspires to be an overseer desires a noble task. ² Now the overseer is to be above reproach, faithful to his wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, ³ not given to drunkenness, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. ⁴ He must manage his own family well and see that his children obey him, and he must do so in a manner worthy of full respect. ⁵ (If anyone does not know how to manage his own family, how can he take care of God's church?) ⁶ He must not be a recent convert, or he may become conceited and fall under the same judgment as the devil. ⁷ He must also have a good reputation with outsiders, so that he will not fall into disgrace and into the devil's trap.

1. What warning does Paul give about choosing church leaders in verses 6-7?
2. Why is this warning needed?
3. How can you be vulnerable in this area of your life? How does that affect you? Ask God to help you to resist this temptation.
4. Pray for these elders at Cheyne: Jim McIntosh, Derek Robb, Derrell Smith, and Wayne Smith.



Thursday May 4

1 Timothy 3:8-10

⁸ In the same way, deacons are to be worthy of respect, sincere, not indulging in much wine, and not pursuing dishonest gain. ⁹ They must keep hold of the deep truths of the faith with a clear conscience. ¹⁰ They must first be tested; and then if there is nothing against them, let them serve as deacons.

“Deacons” would be equivalent to our “Board of managers” at Cheyne. They manage the church’s facilities and finances.

1. What are the qualifications for deacons?
2. Why would these qualifications be essential for managing the church’s facilities and finances?
3. These qualifications for deacons are valuable traits for all Christians to develop with God’s help. How would the Lord say that you are doing at developing these qualities in your life?
4. Pray for these members of the Board of managers at Cheyne: Doug Burke, Jason Clarke, Paul Clark, Ed Godwaldt, and Mark Hamilton.



Friday May 5

1 Timothy 3:11-13

¹¹ *In the same way, the women are to be worthy of respect, not malicious talkers but temperate and trustworthy in everything.*
¹² *A deacon must be faithful to his wife and must manage his children and his household well.* ¹³ *Those who have served well gain an excellent standing and great assurance in their faith in Christ Jesus.*

The “women” in verse 11 can refer to both female deacons and female elders.

1. What additional qualifications are listed for women who serve in leadership (verse 11)? Why are these qualities so vital?
2. Why is the qualification in verse 12 important for deacons who manage God’s facilities and finances?
3. What is the reward for serving well in leadership (verse 13)? How does that reward affect your service?
4. What is the Lord saying to you personally about your Christian character and service? How will you respond?
5. Pray for these members of the Board of managers at Cheyne: Bill Hunt, Bill Kunkel, Charles MacTavish, Al McKay, and Mal Oakley.



Saturday May 6

1 Timothy 3:14-15

¹⁴ Although I hope to come to you soon, I am writing you these instructions so that, ¹⁵ if I am delayed, you will know how people ought to conduct themselves in God's household, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and foundation of the truth.

1. Describe in your own words how Paul views the church. How does this help us to understand the value and function of God's church in the world? How does this view of the church influence your own relationship with the church?
2. How does Paul get across the idea that members of the church should show the same character and behaviour as its leaders? How does that speak to you personally?
3. How motivated is Paul that Timothy and people in the Ephesus church follow God closely? How motivated are you that your family, your Christian friends, and the people that you serve at Cheyne follow God closely? Talk with the Lord about that.
4. Pray for these members of the Board of managers at Cheyne: Joe Ragusa, Derek Robb, Bernice Seager, Wayne Smith, and Brad Switzer.



Sunday May 7

1 Timothy 3:16

¹⁶ *Beyond all question, the mystery from which true godliness springs is great:
God appeared in the flesh,
was vindicated by the Spirit,
was seen by angels,
was preached among the nations,
was believed on in the world,
was taken up in glory.*

“Mystery” here refers a truth that God reveals to His people through His Word by His Spirit; that unbelievers do not understand.

Paul quotes a hymn from the early church.

The first three stanzas focus on Christ’s earthly ministry:
It begins with His incarnation: *God appeared in the flesh,*
It moves to His resurrection: *was vindicated by the Spirit,*
It concludes with His glorification: *was seen by angels,*

The last three stanzas focus on Christ’s ongoing ministry through His church
It starts with preaching the good news to all people: *was preached among the nations*
It moves to people becoming Christ-followers: *was believed on in the world,*
It concludes with triumph and glory forever in heaven: *was taken up in glory.*

1. How would you define godliness?
2. The point is that people who base their lives on God’s revealed mystery in this hymn will let Jesus reshape their lives to be more godly like His life. How has God used the truths revealed in this hymn to help you progress towards godliness?
3. Read over the qualifications for leaders in 1 Timothy 3. Pray for our LIFE group leaders that they would grow in these qualities. Our LIFE group leaders are:

Eileen Alecock,	Ron French / Brad Switzer	Donald Lindsay
Georgina Burley	Bill Harrison	Steve Lindsay
Jack Duncan / Richard Clough	Tim Illman	Lynda Smith
Bob and Joanne Ferrier	Steve and Ann Isaak	Shirley Young
	Lianne Kirkham	



Monday May 8

1 Timothy 4:1-5

4 The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons. ² Such teachings come through hypocritical liars, whose consciences have been seared as with a hot iron. ³ They forbid people to marry and order them to abstain from certain foods, which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and who know the truth. ⁴ For everything God created is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving, ⁵ because it is consecrated by the word of God and prayer.

1. What will happen in the later times (verse 1)? Would Paul say about the world today?
2. How does Paul describe those who are stirring up trouble in the church at this time (verses 1-3)?
3. What is behind this trouble (verses 2-3)?
4. How do you identify hypocrisy versus human imperfection? Why is hypocrisy so harmful?
5. Ask God to help you to see any hypocrisy in your own life. Commit to work with the Lord to stop that hypocrisy.



Tuesday May 9

1 Timothy 4:1-5

4 The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons. ² Such teachings come through hypocritical liars, whose consciences have been seared as with a hot iron. ³ They forbid people to marry and order them to abstain from certain foods, which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and who know the truth. ⁴ For everything God created is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving, ⁵ because it is consecrated by the word of God and prayer.

1. What are two things in particular that are being taught falsely (verse 3)?
2. Why are they harmful? Why is Paul so concerned about a little false teaching?
3. How does Paul answer both false teachings (verses 4-5)?
4. What do you think about Paul's answer? What other answers can you think of?
5. How have you seen people in your church accept false teaching? What is God asking you to do about it?



Wednesday May 10

1 Timothy 4:6-8

⁶ If you point these things out to the brothers and sisters, you will be a good minister of Christ Jesus, nourished on the truths of the faith and of the good teaching that you have followed. ⁷ Have nothing to do with godless myths and old wives' tales; rather, train yourself to be godly. ⁸ For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come.

1. Why is Paul confident that Timothy will be able to counteract these false teachings (verse 6)?
2. What is young Timothy warned against and what is he challenged to do (verse 7)?
3. What is godliness? What value does godliness have in the present life?
4. What is the value of godliness in the life to come?
5. Thank the Lord for your progress in godliness. Ask God to show you where He wants you to grow in godliness and how. Commit to follow His leading with this.



Friday May 12

1 Timothy 4:11-13

¹¹ Command and teach these things. ¹² Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity. ¹³ Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to preaching and to teaching. ¹⁴ Do not neglect your gift, which was given you through prophecy when the body of elders laid their hands on you.

1. What problem will Timothy face and how should he respond (verse 12)? Why will those actions help solve this problem?
2. Think about some young Christians that you know. Ask God how He would like you to encourage them.
3. What example are you setting for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity? What are you doing well? Where do you need to improve?
4. Whom would the Lord like you to mentor in the faith?
5. Talk with the Lord about how He would like you to mentor a new Christian by your example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.



Saturday May 13

1 Timothy 4:11-13

¹¹ Command and teach these things. ¹² Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity. ¹³ Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to preaching and to teaching. ¹⁴ Do not neglect your gift, which was given you through prophecy when the body of elders laid their hands on you.

1. What does Paul ask Timothy to major in until he arrives (verse 13)? Why do you suppose that Paul wants Timothy to focus on these things?

2. Where is Timothy going to get the strength for these tasks (verse 14)?

3. What spiritual gift has God given you through His Holy Spirit?

Romans 12:6-8

⁶ We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; ⁷ if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; ⁸ if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.

1 Corinthians 12:7-11, 28

⁷ Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. ⁸ To one there is given through the Spirit a message of wisdom, to another a message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, ⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, ¹⁰ to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹ All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he distributes them to each one, just as he determines. ²⁸ And God has placed in the church first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, of helping, of guidance, and of different kinds of tongues.

Ephesians 4

¹¹ So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, ¹² to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up

4. Thank the Lord for the spiritual gifts that He has given you. How will you use your spiritual gift to serve your family for their spiritual growth? Ask the Lord to empower you to do that.

5. How will you use your spiritual gift to serve at Cheyne to help people to grow as Christ's disciples? Ask the Lord to enable you to do that.



Sunday May 14

1 Timothy 4:11-16

¹¹ Command and teach these things. ¹² Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity. ¹³ Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to preaching and to teaching. ¹⁴ Do not neglect your gift, which was given you through prophecy when the body of elders laid their hands on you.

¹⁵ Be diligent in these matters; give yourself wholly to them, so that everyone may see your progress. ¹⁶ Watch your life and doctrine closely. Persevere in them, because if you do, you will save both yourself and your hearers.

1. According to verse 15, how does Paul want Timothy approach the things that Paul asked Timothy to do in verses 11-14? Why does Paul urge Timothy to approach these things this way?

2. What does it mean in practical terms to watch your life and doctrine closely (verse 16)?

3. How can perseverance in these things listed in verses 11-14 make it possible for you to “save yourself” (verse 16)? What are God’s role and your role in salvation?

4. How can perseverance in these things listed in verses 11-14 make it possible for you to “save your hearers” (verse 16)? What are the roles of God, you, and your hearers in their salvation?

5. Use verses 11-16 to guide you in prayer to God that He will give you the will and power to persevere in these things that He is calling you through Paul’s message to do.



Monday May 15

1 Timothy 5:1-2

*5 Do not rebuke an older man harshly, but exhort him as if he were your father. Treat younger men as brothers,
2 older women as mothers, and younger women as sisters, with absolute purity.*

1. How are we to treat an older man, especially if he was being difficult (verse 1)? Why? Describe some ways that you could put that into practice.
2. How are we to treat younger men? What might be some of God's reasons for that? How could you do that in practical terms?
3. How should we treat older women? Why would that be important? What would that look like?
4. How should we treat younger women? Why? Describe some practical ways of doing that.
5. What is God saying to you though this passage about how He wants you to relate to people? Talk with God about how you want to grow in genuine love for others as you relate with them.



Tuesday May 16

1 Timothy 5:3-8

³ Give proper recognition to those widows who are really in need. ⁴ But if a widow has children or grandchildren, these should learn first of all to put their religion into practice by caring for their own family and so repaying their parents and grandparents, for this is pleasing to God. ⁵ The widow who is really in need and left all alone puts her hope in God and continues night and day to pray and to ask God for help. ⁶ But the widow who lives for pleasure is dead even while she lives. ⁷ Give the people these instructions, so that no one may be open to blame. ⁸ Anyone who does not provide for their relatives, and especially for their own household, has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.

1. When should the church offer assistance to widows (verses 3-7)?
2. If a family is unwilling to provide assistance for their own members, what have they done (verse 8)?
3. What is God saying here to widows?
4. What is the Lord saying to families of widows?
5. What is the Lord saying to you personally about the care of your parents when they age? Pray that the Lord would help you to do that.



Wednesday May 17

1 Timothy 5:9-10

⁹No widow may be put on the list of widows unless she is over sixty, has been faithful to her husband, ¹⁰and is well known for her good deeds, such as bringing up children, showing hospitality, washing the feet of the Lord's people, helping those in trouble and devoting herself to all kinds of good deeds.

1. Before the church takes responsibility to care for a widow, what do they need to ask about this widow (verses 9-10)?

2. Why are these vital questions to ask?

3. How does the Lord want widows to live? How is this way of living beneficial to them? How can it benefit those around them?

4. Pray for widows that you know that the Lord would minister to them.



Thursday May 18

1 Timothy 5:11-16

¹¹ As for younger widows, do not put them on such a list. For when their sensual desires overcome their dedication to Christ, they want to marry. ¹² Thus they bring judgment on themselves, because they have broken their first pledge. ¹³ Besides, they get into the habit of being idle and going about from house to house. And not only do they become idlers, but also busybodies who talk nonsense, saying things they ought not to. ¹⁴ So I counsel younger widows to marry, to have children, to manage their homes and to give the enemy no opportunity for slander. ¹⁵ Some have in fact already turned away to follow Satan. ¹⁶ If any woman who is a believer has widows in her care, she should continue to help them and not let the church be burdened with them, so that the church can help those widows who are really in need.

1. Who are to be excluded from ongoing support and assistance? Why is that?
2. How does the Lord want younger widows to live?
3. Why is that way of life helpful to them and to other people in their life?
4. How does this passage help us to understand what it means to “turn away to follow Satan”? What are ways that you have seen people do this?
5. Pray for younger widows that you know that the Lord would work in their life and help them to follow Him.



Friday May 19

1 Timothy 5:17-20

¹⁷ The elders who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honor, especially those whose work is preaching and teaching. ¹⁸ For Scripture says, "Do not muzzle an ox while it is treading out the grain," and "The worker deserves his wages." ¹⁹ Do not entertain an accusation against an elder unless it is brought by two or three witnesses. ²⁰ But those elders who are sinning you are to reprove before everyone, so that the others may take warning. ²¹ I charge you, in the sight of God and Christ Jesus and the elect angels, to keep these instructions without partiality, and to do nothing out of favoritism.

²² Do not be hasty in the laying on of hands, and do not share in the sins of others. Keep yourself pure.

²³ Stop drinking only water, and use a little wine because of your stomach and your frequent illnesses.

²⁴ The sins of some are obvious, reaching the place of judgment ahead of them; the sins of others trail behind them. ²⁵ In the same way, good deeds are obvious, and even those that are not obvious cannot remain hidden forever.

1. How is Paul directing the church to treat elders for their faithful service (verses 17-18)?
2. How is your church doing at this? How can your church improve at this?
3. What are you personally doing at affirming and supporting your church leadership? Why is that?
4. Talk with the Lord about how He would like you to treat your church leaders for their faithful service.
5. How should the church deal with elders who are accused of improper conduct (verses 19-20)? Why do you suppose that this action is recommended? What would it look like in practice?



Saturday May 20

1 Timothy 5:21-22

²¹ I charge you, in the sight of God and Christ Jesus and the elect angels, to keep these instructions without partiality, and to do nothing out of favoritism.

²² Do not be hasty in the laying on of hands, and do not share in the sins of others. Keep yourself pure.

1. What is the motivation for church leaders (verse 21)? Why is this a powerful motivation?
2. Why should leaders avoid favoritism (verse 21)?
3. What is God saying to you personally when He says, “do not share in the sins of others. Keep yourself pure” in verse 22?
4. How well are you following God’s admonition in verse 22? In what ways do you find this difficult? Why is it hard?
5. Thank God for the progress you have made with His help in following verse 22 and ask Him to help you to make continued progress.



Tuesday May 23

1 Timothy 6:3-5

³ If anyone teaches otherwise and does not agree to the sound instruction of our Lord Jesus Christ and to godly teaching, ⁴ they are conceited and understand nothing. They have an unhealthy interest in controversies and quarrels about words that result in envy, strife, malicious talk, evil suspicions ⁵ and constant friction between people of corrupt mind, who have been robbed of the truth and who think that godliness is a means to financial gain.

1. Describe in your own words the things that God wants us to avoid.
2. Why are these things harmful to ourselves and to others when we do these things?
3. Which of these things is God asking you to stop with His help? Commit to work on that with God's assistance.
4. How are you personally acting upon "the sound instruction of our Lord Jesus Christ and to godly teaching?"
5. Ask God to help you to see how He wants you to act more sincerely and consistently upon "the sound instruction of our Lord Jesus Christ and to godly teaching."



Wednesday May 24

1 Timothy 6:6-10

⁶ But godliness with contentment is great gain. ⁷ For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. ⁸ But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. ⁹ Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰ For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

1. What is God urging us to pursue in verse 6. What would this look like in everyday life? Why is the Lord encouraging us to pursue this lifestyle (verses 7-10)?
2. Describe what the end results of the love of money mean. Explain how the love of money leads to these results.

Verse	The end result of the love of money	What this end result of the love of money means	How the love of money leads to this result.
9	Temptation and a trap		
9	Foolish and harmful desires		
9	Ruin and destruction		
10	All kinds of evil		
10	Wandered from the faith		
10	Pierced themselves with many griefs		

3. What does God mean by the love of money (verses 9-10)?
4. How are you susceptible to the love of money? What in this passage encourages you to avoid the love of money? How will you avoid it with God's enablement?



Thursday May 25

1 Timothy 6:11-16

¹¹ But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness. ¹² Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses. ¹³ In the sight of God, who gives life to everything, and of Christ Jesus, who while testifying before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you ¹⁴ to keep this command without spot or blame until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵ which God will bring about in his own time—God, the blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords, ¹⁶ who alone is immortal and who lives in unapproachable light, whom no one has seen or can see. To him be honor and might forever. Amen.

1. What does a man or woman of God pursue in verse 11? Describe what these pursuits look like in real life. How do these pursuits indicate that a person is truly a man or woman of God?

2. What is Timothy challenged to fight and what does this mean (verse 12)?

3. How are you doing at this fight? Thank God for your progress to date. Ask Him to help you to know how to improve in this battle.

4. What does it mean to “take hold of the eternal life to which you were called” in verse 12? What is the “eternal life” that we can start living today? How do we “take hold” of it?

5. Pray that the Lord would show you how to “take hold of this eternal life” more consistently this week.



Friday May 26

1 Timothy 6:11-16

¹¹ But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness. ¹² Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses. ¹³ In the sight of God, who gives life to everything, and of Christ Jesus, who while testifying before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you ¹⁴ to keep this command without spot or blame until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵ which God will bring about in his own time—God, the blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords, ¹⁶ who alone is immortal and who lives in unapproachable light, whom no one has seen or can see. To him be honor and might forever. Amen.

John 18:33-37

³³ Pilate then went back inside the palace, summoned Jesus and asked him, “Are you the king of the Jews?”
³⁴ “Is that your own idea,” Jesus asked, “or did others talk to you about me?”
³⁵ “Am I a Jew?” Pilate replied. “Your own people and chief priests handed you over to me. What have you done?”
³⁶ Jesus said, “My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jewish leaders. But now my kingdom is from another place.”
³⁷ “You are a king, then!” said Pilate.
 Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. In fact, the reason I was born and came into the world is to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me.”

1. What was the “good confession” that Jesus Christ made while testifying before Pontius Pilate (1 Timothy 6:1; John 18:33-37)? What is Jesus confessing about His identity and kingdom?

2. What do you suppose was the “good confession in the presence of many witnesses” that enabled Timothy to “take hold of the eternal life to which he was called” (verse 12)? What might Timothy’s confession have to do about Jesus’ identity and entrance into Christ’s kingdom?

3. When did you publicly make the “good confession?” How did you do that? How does your life reflect “your good confession?”

4. Paul charges Timothy and us in the presence of God and Jesus “to keep this command without spot or blame until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ” (verses 13-14). The command probably refers to God’s command through Paul in the preceding verse:
“Flee from all sin, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life” (verses 11-12)

Considering that you live constantly in the sight of God and Jesus, talk with the Lord about how you will keep this command without spot or blame until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ. How does living in the constant sight of God and expecting Christ’s imminent return motivate you to keep this command?



Saturday May 27

1 Timothy 6:17-21

¹⁷ Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.

¹⁸ Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. ¹⁹ In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.

²⁰ Timothy, guard what has been entrusted to your care. Turn away from godless chatter and the opposing ideas of what is falsely called knowledge, ²¹ which some have professed and in so doing have departed from the faith. Grace be with you all.

1. What is Timothy commanded to remind the rich (verses 17-19)?

2. How will the rich benefit if they do these things (verses 17-19)?

3. Try to describe what God means in verse 19.
 - What is the treasure that we can lay up for ourselves as a firm foundation for the coming age?

 - How does this lead to taking hold of the life that is truly life?

4. Talk with the Lord about how His message to you in this passage will guide the way that you manage money.



Sunday May 28

1 Timothy 6:17-21

¹⁷ Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.

¹⁸ Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. ¹⁹ In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.

²⁰ Timothy, guard what has been entrusted to your care. Turn away from godless chatter and the opposing ideas of what is falsely called knowledge, ²¹ which some have professed and in so doing have departed from the faith. Grace be with you all.

1. In his parting shot, what challenge does Paul give Timothy (verses 20-21)?
2. What has God entrusted into your care? How does He want you to guard it?
3. How well are you guarding what God entrusted into your care? Commit to God to work with Him to guard that better.
4. What has caused some people to depart from the faith (verses 20-21)? How have you seen people do that?
5. In what situations can you be vulnerable to departing from the faith? Why is that? Ask God to make you aware of this vulnerability and help you to draw close to Him at those times.



Monday May 29

2 Timothy 1:1-2

1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, in keeping with the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,

²To Timothy, my dear son:

Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

1. What do you think is the “promise of life that is in Christ Jesus” (verse 1)?
2. Paul referred to Timothy as his dear son. The book of 2 Timothy is about the art of mentoring. Your faith will skyrocket when you have someone pouring into you and when you are pouring into someone else. In prayer, ask God if He would like you to be a Timothy who learns from a Paul or a Paul who mentors a Timothy. Of perhaps God would like you to have a friendship where both of you mutually help one another to grow as Christ’s disciples.
3. If you feel God leading you to learn from someone who is further along on the journey of faith, ask them to meet for coffee and begin a relationship. Talk with them about the blessings of a mentoring relationship for both of you.

You could ask them:

- What has helped you to grow as Christ’s disciple?
- Where have you struggled in your faith in the past?
- What helped you?
- How would you deal with [describe a tough situation that you are facing]?

4. If you feel God leading you to mentor someone who is a few steps behind you on the spiritual journey, ask them to meet with you for coffee and to begin a relationship. Talk with them about the blessings of a mentoring relationship for both of you.

You could ask them:

- What has helped you to grow as Christ’s disciple?
- Where are you struggling in your faith at the present time?
- What do you do when you are struggling in your faith? What has helped you?



Tuesday May 30

2 Timothy 1:3-7

³ *I thank God, whom I serve, as my ancestors did, with a clear conscience, as night and day I constantly remember you in my prayers.* ⁴ *Recalling your tears, I long to see you, so that I may be filled with joy.* ⁵ *I am reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also.*

⁶ *For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands.* ⁷ *For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline.*

1. How would you describe the relationship between Paul and Timothy (verses 3-4)?
2. Where does Timothy get a lot of his strength and what is he challenged to do with it (verses 5-6)?
3. What were the key factors and events in your life that led to a “sincere faith”?
4. What role did your parents or grandparents play in your spiritual growth?
5. Thank God for parents and grandparents and ask God to bless them. If they are alive, thank your parents and grandparents for their positive spiritual influence in your life.



Wednesday May 31

2 Timothy 1:3-7

³ I thank God, whom I serve, as my ancestors did, with a clear conscience, as night and day I constantly remember you in my prayers. ⁴ Recalling your tears, I long to see you, so that I may be filled with joy. ⁵ I am reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also.

⁶ For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. ⁷ For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline.

1. What is one weakness that Timothy has (verse 7)? How does Paul urge Timothy to deal with that weakness?

2. How can you fan into flame the gift of God that is in you (verse 6)?

3. How has God's Spirit given you power, love, and disciple? What difference does that make in your life?

4. Thank the Lord for making those differences in your life.



Thursday June 1

2 Timothy 1:8-12

⁸ So do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner. Rather, join with me in suffering for the gospel, by the power of God. ⁹ He has saved us and called us to a holy life—not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time, ¹⁰ but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior, Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. ¹¹ And of this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher. ¹² That is why I am suffering as I am. Yet this is no cause for shame, because I know whom I have believed, and am convinced that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him until that day.

1. Suffering will either turn a person against God or turn them into a person of God. What are three or four things that Paul has learned from his suffering (verses 8-12)? How have these lessons enriched his life?
2. What has God taught you through your own personal suffering?
3. Thank God for what He has taught you through suffering?



Friday June 2

2 Timothy 1:8-12

⁸ So do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner. Rather, join with me in suffering for the gospel, by the power of God. ⁹ He has saved us and called us to a holy life—not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time, ¹⁰ but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior, Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. ¹¹ And of this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher. ¹² That is why I am suffering as I am. Yet this is no cause for shame, because I know whom I have believed, and am convinced that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him until that day.

1. What are God's purposes for us (verses 9-11)?
2. How do you see those purposes of God working out in your own life? Thank God for that.
3. Ask God how He wants you to mature in a holy life (verse 9)? Commit to act upon His guidance to grow in holiness.
4. Explain in your own words what God's gospel is and what it can do.
5. How has God called you to be a herald and teacher of His gospel (verse 11). Talk with God about how you will carry out His calling in your life.



Saturday June 3

2 Timothy 1:13-15

¹³ What you heard from me, keep as the pattern of sound teaching, with faith and love in Christ Jesus. ¹⁴ Guard the good deposit that was entrusted to you—guard it with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us.

¹⁵ You know that everyone in the province of Asia has deserted me, including Phygelus and Hermogenes.

¹⁶ May the Lord show mercy to the household of Onesiphorus, because he often refreshed me and was not ashamed of my chains. ¹⁷ On the contrary, when he was in Rome, he searched hard for me until he found me.

¹⁸ May the Lord grant that he will find mercy from the Lord on that day! You know very well in how many ways he helped me in Ephesus.

1. With whom is God calling you to “share sound teaching, with faith and love in Christ Jesus” (verse 13)?
How will you do this?
2. Pray that the Lord will bless your efforts at this.
3. What does it mean to “guard the good deposit that was entrusted to you—guard it with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us” (verse 14).
4. Talk with the Lord about how you hope to guard the good deposit that was entrusted to you with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in you.



Wednesday June 7

2 Timothy 2:8-10

⁸ Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, descended from David. This is my gospel, ⁹ for which I am suffering even to the point of being chained like a criminal. But God's word is not chained. ¹⁰ Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they too may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory.

1. How is Paul suffering? How would you feel if you had been in Paul's shoes?
2. Why is Paul willing to suffer?
3. What is the Lord saying to you in verse 10? How is He challenging you to endure hardship for the sake of other people's salvation?
4. Talk with the Lord about how you will respond to His challenge to you in verse 3?



Thursday June 8

2 Timothy 2:11-13

¹¹ *Here is a trustworthy saying:*

*If we died with him,
we will also live with him;*

¹² *if we endure,
we will also reign with him.*

*If we disown him,
he will also disown us;*

¹³ *if we are faithless,
he remains faithful,
for he cannot disown himself.*

1. Explain in your own words the meaning of the trustworthy saying in verses 11-13.
2. How does this trustworthy saying encourage you personally?
3. How does this trustworthy saying challenge you?
4. Discuss with the Lord how you will live in reply to what He is saying to you through this trustworthy saying.



Friday June 9

2 Timothy 2:14-19

¹⁴ Keep reminding God's people of these things. Warn them before God against quarreling about words; it is of no value, and only ruins those who listen. ¹⁵ Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth. ¹⁶ Avoid godless chatter, because those who indulge in it will become more and more ungodly. ¹⁷ Their teaching will spread like gangrene. Among them are Hymenaeus and Philetus, ¹⁸ who have departed from the truth. They say that the resurrection has already taken place, and they destroy the faith of some. ¹⁹ Nevertheless, God's solid foundation stands firm, sealed with this inscription: "The Lord knows those who are his," and, "Everyone who confesses the name of the Lord must turn away from wickedness."

1. Why does Paul warn Timothy to stay away from “quarrelling about words” and what does this mean?
2. Instead of quarrelling, what is the better emphasis (verse 15)?
3. What is the second thing to avoid? Why is it so important to avoid this (verse 16-19)?
4. How are you “doing your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth”? How will you improve at this?
5. How are you susceptible to godless chatter (verses 16-19)? What motivates you to stop this? Talk with the Lord about how you will work with His help to reduce godless chatter.



Saturday June 10

2 Timothy 2:20-21

²⁰ In a large house there are articles not only of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay; some are for special purposes and some for common use. ²¹ Those who cleanse themselves from the latter will be instruments for special purposes, made holy, useful to the Master and prepared to do any good work.

1. What is Paul's point in his illustration about household utensils (verses 20-21)?
2. From what sorts of activities do you need to cleanse yourself (verse 21)? Why?
3. Ask God to help you to cleanse yourself from those activities?
4. What holy activities does your Master want you to engage in so that you will be more useful to Him?
5. Pray that the Master will use you in His holy purposes and prepare you for good work that helps others to mature as Christ's disciples.



Sunday June 11

2 Timothy 2:22-26

²² Flee the evil desires of youth and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart. ²³ Don't have anything to do with foolish and stupid arguments, because you know they produce quarrels. ²⁴ And the Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful. ²⁵ Opponents must be gently instructed, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the truth, ²⁶ and that they will come to their senses and escape from the trap of the devil, who has taken them captive to do his will.

1. What does Paul command Timothy to flee (verse 22)? Give some examples of this. Why is it so vital to flee this?
2. What does Paul call Timothy to pursue (verse 22)? Why are these so valuable things to pursue?
3. How are you pursuing the things that Paul commands in verse 22? Thank the Lord for enabling your progress with this.
4. How are we to deal with opponents to Christianity (verses 24-26)? Why is this a good way of dealing with them?
5. Pray for people that you know who are opposed to the Christian faith. Ask the Lord to help them to “come to their senses and escape from the trap of the devil, who has taken them captive to do his will.” Pray that the Lord would help you deal with them in His way.



Monday June 12

2 Timothy 3:1-5

3 But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days. ² People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, ³ without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good, ⁴ treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God—⁵ having a form of godliness but denying its power. Have nothing to do with such people.

1. In your own words, describe the condition of many people.
2. Of all the sins listed here, which one is the root of all the others?
3. Which of these sins are you most vulnerable to? Why?
4. Ask the Lord to show you how He wants you to resist these sins and work with Him to achieve a greater victory over them.



Tuesday June 13

2 Timothy 3:1-5

3 But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days. ² People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, ³ without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good, ⁴ treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God—⁵ having a form of godliness but denying its power. Have nothing to do with such people.

1. What does it mean to have “a form of godliness but denying its power” (verse 5)?
2. When have you looked godly but lacked a true heart for God? Why did you do that?
3. Talk with the Lord about how you want to both act in a godly way and have a true heart for God.
4. How can a Christian have nothing to do with people who are evil-doers and still live in society?
5. Ask God to enable you live effectively for Him when you are surrounded by evil-doers.



Wednesday June 14

2 Timothy 3:6-9

⁶They are the kind who worm their way into homes and gain control over gullible women, who are loaded down with sins and are swayed by all kinds of evil desires, ⁷always learning but never able to come to a knowledge of the truth. ⁸Just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, so also these teachers oppose the truth. They are men of depraved minds, who, as far as the faith is concerned, are rejected. ⁹But they will not get very far because, as in the case of those men, their folly will be clear to everyone.

1. What behaviour is Paul addressing in verses 6-7?
2. Why is this behaviour so wrong?
3. What is behind this sinful behaviour?
4. How can the church defend against this sinful behaviour?



Thursday June 15

2 Timothy 3:6-9

⁶They are the kind who worm their way into homes and gain control over gullible women, who are loaded down with sins and are swayed by all kinds of evil desires, ⁷always learning but never able to come to a knowledge of the truth. ⁸Just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, so also these teachers oppose the truth. They are men of depraved minds, who, as far as the faith is concerned, are rejected. ⁹But they will not get very far because, as in the case of those men, their folly will be clear to everyone.

1. What is wrong with the teachers in verses 8-9?
2. Why do you think they act like this?
3. What encourages Paul in the midst of these problems?
4. What will happen to these false teachers?
5. Pray that our congregation at Cheyne will be protected from false teachers on television and in the church.



Friday June 16

2 Timothy 3:10-17

¹⁰ You, however, know all about my teaching, my way of life, my purpose, faith, patience, love, endurance, ¹¹ persecutions, sufferings—what kinds of things happened to me in Antioch, Iconium and Lystra, the persecutions I endured. Yet the Lord rescued me from all of them. ¹² In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, ¹³ while evildoers and impostors will go from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived. ¹⁴ But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, ¹⁵ and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶ All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, ¹⁷ so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

1. How does Paul start his final charge to Timothy (verses 10-11)? Why do you think Paul started off his final charge by reminding Timothy of his own suffering?

2. What does Paul want Timothy to learn about ministry? What does Paul want Timothy to learn from Paul's life? What does Paul want Timothy to learn about God?

3. What does Paul guarantee to Timothy and to all people who try to live a godly life (verses 12-13)? Why can we expect that?

4. What will happen to counterfeit Christians (verse 14)? Why?

5. What inspires you about Paul's relationship with God? What impresses you about Paul's ministry? How will these two aspects of Paul's life affect how you live?



Monday June 19

2 Timothy 4:1-5

4 In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge: ² Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction. ³ For the time will come when people will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. ⁴ They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths. ⁵ But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry.

1. What motivation does Paul give Timothy to obey Paul's charge (verse 1)? How compelling is that motivation to you? Why?
2. Explain in your own words what Paul is commanding Timothy to do (verse 2)?
3. Why are the things that Paul commands Timothy to do so important?
4. How does Paul advise Timothy to carry out Paul's commands (verse 2)? How does it help to carry out these commands in this way?
5. It is actually God commanding us through Paul to do these things in verse 2. Talk with God in prayer about how you will obey God's command to do these things and what help you need from the Lord to do these things.



Tuesday June 20

2 Timothy 4:1-5

4 In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge: ² Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction. ³ For the time will come when people will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. ⁴ They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths. ⁵ But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry.

1. What warning does Paul give Timothy in verses 3-4? How have you seen these things today? How are these things dangerous?
2. What counsel does Paul give Timothy in verse 5?
3. What are some ways that you are obeying God's charge to you personally in verse 5? Thank God for helping you to make that progress in your ministry.
4. Which of God's charges to you in verse 5 do you need God's assistance to fulfill? Ask for His help.
5. As you were asking God for His help what steps did He bring to mind that He wants you to take in these areas of ministry? Commit to act on His guidance trusting His assistance.



Wednesday June 21

2 Timothy 4:6-8

⁶ For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time for my departure is near. ⁷ I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. ⁸ 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.

1. Many Bible scholars believe that these verses are the last words that Paul wrote about himself which are recorded in Scripture. They are his epitaph or memorial inscription for his life. Take a moment to think about his words. Rephrase in your own words the significance and emotion of what Paul is saying here.
2. Take some time to write your own memorial inscription. What can you sincerely say about your life and ministry with God?
3. Talk with the Lord about how you feel about meeting Him on that day (verse 8). How much do you long for His appearing? Why?
4. How does Paul's epitaph affect how you want to spend the rest of your life? Express that to the Lord.



Thursday June 22

2 Timothy 4:9-13

⁹Do your best to come to me quickly, ¹⁰for Demas, because he loved this world, has deserted me and has gone to Thessalonica. Crescens has gone to Galatia, and Titus to Dalmatia. ¹¹Only Luke is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, because he is helpful to me in my ministry. ¹²I sent Tychicus to Ephesus. ¹³When you come, bring the cloak that I left with Carpus at Troas, and my scrolls, especially the parchments.

1. What is Paul requesting from Timothy? What emotions do you think that Paul is experiencing? Why?
2. What has Demas done? Why did he do this? How can you be tempted to do that?
3. Paul had parted ways with Mark in Acts 15:36-39 because he did not trust Mark since Mark had previously deserted him. What has God done now in the relationship between Paul and Mark (verse 11)?
4. Consider a strained relationship that you have with another person. How does God's work in Paul and Mark's relationship encourage you in your strained relationship? Ask God what steps He wants you to take so that He can do His reconciling work.
5. In this last years of life, what does Paul want Timothy to bring him (verse 13)? Why do you think that Paul wants them now? How important are God's Scriptures to you? How will you show God the value that you place upon His Word?



Friday June 23

2 Timothy 4:14-15

¹⁴ Alexander the metalworker did me a great deal of harm. The Lord will repay him for what he has done. ¹⁵ You too should be on your guard against him, because he strongly opposed our message.

Acts 19:23-27

²³ About that time, serious trouble developed in Ephesus concerning the Way. ²⁴ It began with Demetrius, a silversmith who had a large business manufacturing silver shrines of the Greek goddess Artemis. He kept many craftsmen busy. ²⁵ He called them together, along with others employed in similar trades, and addressed them as follows:

“Gentlemen, you know that our wealth comes from this business. ²⁶ But as you have seen and heard, this man Paul has persuaded many people that handmade gods aren’t really gods at all. And he’s done this not only here in Ephesus but throughout the entire province! ²⁷ Of course, I’m not just talking about the loss of public respect for our business. I’m also concerned that the temple of the great goddess Artemis will lose its influence and that Artemis—this magnificent goddess worshiped throughout the province of Asia and all around the world—will be robbed of her great prestige!”

1. Considering the background listed in Acts 19:23-27, why would Alexander, the metalworker, be so opposed to Paul?
2. Think about people in your life who are opposed to Jesus Christ and Christianity. Why are they so opposed? In what ways could some of their opposition be similar to Alexander’s opposition?
3. Pray for people that you know who are strongly opposed to Christianity. Pray that the Lord would reveal Himself to them and draw them to Christ. Ask God to show you how He wants to use you in His plan for them.



Saturday June 24

2 Timothy 4:16-18

¹⁶ *At my first defense, no one came to my support, but everyone deserted me. May it not be held against them.*

¹⁷ *But the Lord stood at my side and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. And I was delivered from the lion's mouth.* ¹⁸ *The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and will bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen.*

1. What happened at Paul's trial in Rome (verse 16)?
2. Who was Paul's only defender (verse 17)? How did Paul's defender help Paul?
3. How did Paul look upon his trial and outcome (verses 17-18)?
4. Pray for Christians who are persecuted for their faith that the Lord would protect and defend them. Ask God to use them in expanding His kingdom.

