

Rooted

The Means of Discipleship
2 Timothy 2:1-7
November 1, 2015

Discipleship: training in Christ-likeness.

I. IN THE PRESENCE OF MANY WITNESSES

- Timothy had sat under Paul's teaching. He was expected to pay attention and learn (vs. 2; Mark 4:9; 1 John 1:3-4).
- Paul taught publicly, as had Jesus. He had nothing to hide, nor was he promoting a secret religion (John 18:20; Acts 5:42; 20:20; 2 Cor. 4:1-2).

II. TRUE APOSTOLIC SUCCESSION

- Timothy is called upon to entrust the teaching he has heard to faithful men (Phil. 2:19-30; 2 Tim. 1:16-18).
- Not just faithful men, but faithful men who can in turn teach. In the right context, this certainly includes women (Acts 18:26; Rom. 16:1; 1 Tim. 3:1-4; Titus 1:9).
- Discipleship looks like this to Paul:
 1. Christ to Paul (Gal. 1:11-12)
 2. Paul to Timothy (vs. 2)
 3. Timothy to faithful men
 4. Faithful men to others also

III. PRINCIPLES TO CONSIDER (vss. 3-7)

- Suffering is part of God's plan to lay the groundwork for the gospel (vs. 3; Matt. 5:38-39; 1 Peter 1:7).
- We should serve like good soldiers of Christ (vss. 3-4).
- We should preach the gospel honestly (vs. 5; 2 Cor. 4:1-2).
- The work of the gospel can be tedious but rewarding (vs. 6).
- God's Spirit works with us to figure things out (John 14:26).

HOW TO LIVE THIS OUT AT LIFEPOINT:

1. Make an effort to connect with a younger and older believer
2. Involve yourself in discipling opportunities
3. Involve yourself in a Life Group
4. Pay attention during worship - the music too!
5. Pass the teaching you've heard on to someone (children, grandchildren, nephew, niece, etc.)

KNOW: The good teaching that we've heard needs to be repeated. It takes perseverance and single-mindedness to be a good teacher in Christ.

DO: Share the good teachings you've heard.

Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

Please read 2 Timothy 2:1-7

1. Paul refers to Timothy as "my child." In 1 Tim. 1 he calls him "my true son in the faith." What does this tell you about how Paul thought about his discipling relationship with Timothy?
2. If you think about 2 Tim. 2:1-6 as Paul directs Timothy to do, what conclusions do you come to?
3. Read verse 1 again. What has to be in place before one begins to pass on Christian teaching effectively?
4. Why did we emphasize the idea that Paul taught publicly in Sunday's message? Why is that important to note?
5. Why, do you think, is so much emphasis placed upon Christian suffering in the N.T.? How does suffering advance the gospel?
6. Are you passing on the teaching that has been passed on to you? In what ways?