

C-Group Study Guide

2 Timothy



Cultivating our Community for Christ
1 Cor. 3: 6-9

Calendar

May 2	week 1	2 Timothy 1
May 9	Mother's Day / No C-Group	2 Timothy 2
May 16	week 3	2 Timothy 3
May 23	week 4	2 Timothy 4

2021 Connection Groups

<u>Leader(s)</u>	<u>Demographic</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Day/Time</u>
Barricklow	Open Group	Upper Room	SUN. – 5:30 P.M.
McHale	Open Group	Prayer Room	SUN. – 5:30 P.M.
Reynolds	Open Group	Conference Room	SUN. – 5:30 P.M.
Simpkins	Open Group	Simpkins Home	WED. – 6:30 P.M.
Gillispie	Ladies	King's Classroom	WED. – 10:00 A.M.
Jennings	Open Group	Parsley Home	WED. – 5:30 P.M.

Helpful Tips for Studying Scripture

Below are some helpful questions to ask and answer when reading, understanding, and applying scripture to our lives. You do not need to answer all these questions as part of each week, but as you read through the passages you are encouraged to keep these questions nearby to enhance your experience reading God's word.

Understanding the Bible

- 1. What do we learn about God?**
 - a. Look for God's character (who he is, what he is like).
 - b. Look for God's conduct (what he is doing).
 - c. Look for God's concerns (what things, events, and people he is concerned about).
- 2. What do we learn about people?**
 - a. Look for aspects of what it means to be created in God's image.
 - b. Look for fallen condition
 - c. Look for how God's people should live.
- 3. What do we learn about relating to God?**
 - a. Look for things to praise and thank God for.
 - b. Look for sin to confess and repent.
 - c. Look for promises and truths to believe.
- 4. What do we learn about relating to others?**
 - a. Look for how we should interact with and treat others.
 - b. Look for ways to pursue reconciliation with others.
 - c. Look for specific ways to love, serve, and care for others.

Applying the Bible

- 1. What does God want me to understand?**
- 2. What does God want me to believe?**
- 3. What does God want me to desire?**
- 4. What does God want me to do?**

Content taken from Dr. Matthew Harmon's book, *Asking the Right Questions*, Crossway, 2017. Used with permission.

2 Timothy

Background:

Paul writes this epistle from prison, shortly before his martyrdom about AD 67. Paul was released from his imprisonment for a little while; most likely following his writing of his first letter to Timothy and Titus. Paul now finds himself back in prison under the rule and persecution of Christians by Nero. While Paul's first imprisonment was a house arrest, this time is more dire, as he is aware that his time is coming to an end (4:6-8). Paul passed on the non-apostolic mantle of ministry to Timothy, exhorting him to faithfully continue in teaching sound doctrine (1:13-14), avoiding error (2:15-18), accepting persecution for the sake of the gospel (2:3-4; 3:10-12), putting his confidence in scripture and preaching it relentlessly (3:15-4:5). As Voddie Baucham put it, the message of 2 Timothy is this;

“Timothy, they are about to kill me for preaching the gospel; when they do; you preach the gospel until they kill you.”

This letter is a final exhortation from Paul to his true child in the faith to be faithful to the gospel considering his impending death.

Week 1

2 Timothy 1

Connect:

Have you ever felt ashamed to be a Christian or to hold Christian values? If so, what attitudes or fears kept you from holding to the faith?

Interpret:

1. Paul offered a number of ways that Timothy could resist being ashamed of the gospel (1:6-14). Summarize these? What are some others?

2. Why did Paul share with Timothy the contrasting actions of others involved in his ministry (1:15-18)? How does doing this both challenge and encourage Timothy?

Apply:

Read Acts 4:1-21. What impresses you regarding the apostles' demeanor in the passage? How do you see this kind of boldness playing out in the church today?

Pray:

Pray for boldness to share the gospel.

Week 2 2 Timothy 2

Connect:

Who has patterned endurance in Christ to you the most?

Interpret:

1. Paul uses three analogies to highlight several qualities of a strong spiritual life (2:1-7). What are the main points of each analogy?

2. Read Romans 8:31-39. How does the truth in this passage encourage you to endure tough times? How do you think the church does in living this out today?

Apply:

How do you think you might fare if you lived in a country where Christians were normally persecuted? How can you prepare yourself and the next generation to be ready for the coming “war”?

Pray:

Pray for increased discipline in your relationship with God.

Week 3
2 Timothy 3

Connect:

What people have held the role of “spiritual mentor” in your life?
What significant lessons have you learned from them?

Interpret:

1. What kinds of sins did Paul say would be more prevalent in the last days (3:1-9)? Where do you see this taking place today? What responsibility does the believer have to combat these?

2. What do you observe regarding Paul’s mentoring methods (3:10-14)?

Apply:

Read Hebrews 4:12-13. How does God’s Word expose the sin in the life of a believer? How are you pursuing eliminating sin?

Pray:

For sin to be revealed and eliminated in your life and for the ongoing process of sanctification.

Week 4 2 Timothy 4

Connect:

If you were to write a short final letter to your dearest loved ones, what topics would you discuss? What counsel would you give, and why?

Interpret:

1. Why is preaching such a serious calling? According to this passage (4:1-5) what should the job description of the preacher encompass? (see also 1 Cor. 3:12-15; Gal. 1:10; Jam. 3:1-2)

2. Sensing that his time was drawing to a close, how did the apostle Paul summarize his life (4:6-8)? As Paul looked to the future, what was his hope?

Apply:

At the end of your life, looking back; what kind of life do you want to have lived? How do you wish to be remembered? What can you ask God to begin changing in your life now to work towards this?

Pray:

Pray for endurance and faithfulness in doing the work Christ called his followers to.

Prayer Requests / Praises

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