

# RETHINK, RESET, REFOCUS

— A SERMON SERIES IN 2 TIMOTHY —

GOD CALLS US TO  
**RETHINK** THE LIES,  
THE DISTRACTIONS,  
AND THE HABITS  
THAT DULL OUR FAITH.



GOD CALLS US TO  
**RESET** OUR HEARTS,  
OUR PRIORITIES,  
AND OUR DIRECTION.

GOD CALLS US TO  
**REFOCUS** ON HIS PURPOSE,  
HIS POWER, AND HIS PRESENCE.



The People Along The Way (2 Timothy 1:1-14), September 20, 2026

Shalom Ministries International Worship Service

# I surrender all to you

I surrender all to you  
Everything I give to you  
Withholding nothing  
Withholding nothing

I give myself away  
I give myself away  
So You can use me  
I give myself away  
I give myself away  
So You can use me

Led by Paul Musembi, Worship Leader

# Intercessory Prayer



(Led by Marc Musimbi, Prayer Leader)

# New Sermon Series

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God always allows us a second chance, which is called grace. Even though we fail at first, God gives us a second chance to stand up. The Bible is filled with many stories of God granting second chances for success. We will learn about this over the next 6 weeks. So, don't give up. God is always on your side.

**Rising Again:**

**September 27-November 1 (6 Weeks)**

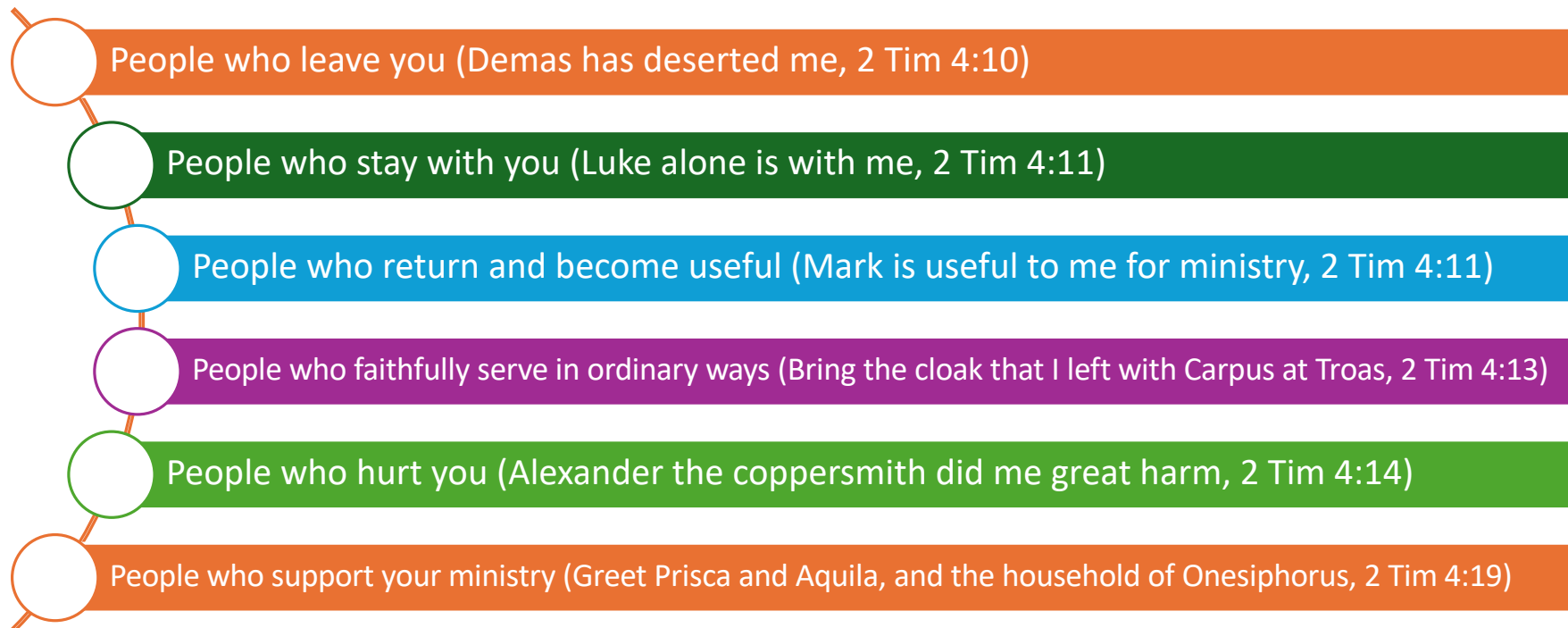
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# The People Along the Way

- For Demas has forsaken me, having loved this present world, and has departed for Thessalonica—Crescens for Galatia, Titus for Dalmatia. Only Luke is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, for he is useful to me for ministry. And Tychicus I have sent to Ephesus. Bring the cloak that I left with Carpus at Troas when you come—and the books, especially the parchments. Alexander the coppersmith did me much harm. May the Lord repay him according to his works. You also must beware of him, for he has greatly resisted our words...Greet Prisca and Aquila, and the household of Onesiphorus. Erastus stayed in Corinth, but Trophimus I have left in Miletus sick (2 Timothy 4:10-20)

# Ministry Is a Journey with People



# Demas: People who leave us

- Who is Demas?
  - He was a ministry companion and fellow worker.
  - Luke, the beloved physician, and Demas greet you (Colossians 4:14).
  - Mark, Aristarchus, Demas, and Luke, my fellow workers (Philemon 24).
- He left because he loved this world
  - For Demas, because he loved this world (present age), has deserted me and has gone to Thessalonica (2 Tim 4:10).
  - The problem isn't having possessions, enjoying life or living in the world. The issue is what has captured our heart.
- Ministry lessons
  - Don't confuse proximity to Jesus with devotion to Jesus.
  - What we love determines where we go. (What do I love?)
  - Don't let someone's departure destroy your faithfulness. Don't lose your faith.
  - Faithfulness must continue when ministry becomes difficult.

# Luke: People who stay with us

- Who is Luke?
  - Luke, the beloved physician (Colossians 4:14).
  - When we had seen the vision, we sought to go into Macedonia. We set sail from Troas... (Acts 16:10-11).
  - Luke was with Paul during the journey to Rome (Acts 27:1-28:16).
  - Only Luke is with me (2 Timothy 4:11).
- The ministry of presence
  - Luke was with Paul not only during missionary expansion but also during imprisonment and the dangerous journey to Rome.
  - Luke's greatest ministry in the last moment was not what he did for Paul, but that he was with Paul.
  - Authentic fellowship means walking with one another through the whole journey—not only celebrating the victories, but remaining present through the valleys.

# Mark: People who return and become useful

- Who is Mark?
  - When this had dawned on him, he (Peter) went to the house of Mary the mother of John, also called Mark, where many people had gathered and were praying (Acts 12:12).
  - My fellow prisoner Aristarchus sends you his greetings, as does Mark, the cousin of Barnabas (Colossians 4:10).
  - Get Mark and bring him with you, because he is helpful to me in my ministry (2 Tim 4:11).
- What happened between Mark and Paul?
  - John left them and return to Jerusalem (Acts 13:13).
  - Paul did not think it wise to take him, because he had deserted them in Pamphylia and had not continued with them in the work. They had such a sharp disagreement that they parted company. Barnabas took Mark and sailed for Cyprus (Acts 15:38-39).
- He failed but God restored
  - The person who once disappointed you may eventually become someone God uses powerfully.
  - Don't permanently define people by their past failure.
  - Don't give up on people.

# Carpus who faithfully serves in ordinary ways

- Who is Carpus?
  - When you come, bring the cloak that I left with **Carpus** at Troas, also the books (scrolls), and above all the parchments (2 Timothy 4:13).
  - There is no other biblical reference to Carpus by name.
  - Books & parchments: Even near the end of his life, Paul remained a learner and a student.
- Do your best to get here before winter (2 Tim 4:21)
  - Paul needs the cloak simply to stay warm and survive the elements.
  - Paul asked Timothy to come before winter because harsh winter weather on the Mediterranean Sea halted all regular ship navigation.
- Ministry depends on ordinary faithful people.
  - Paul trusted Carpus enough to leave his belongings with him.
  - Never underestimate ordinary faithfulness.
  - You don't have to be famous to be faithful. You don't have to be visible to be valuable. You don't have to preach the sermon to serve God's kingdom. Sometimes faithfulness simply means being the person someone can trust.

# Alexander: People who hurt us

- Who is Alexander?
  - Alexander the coppersmith did me great harm. The Lord will repay him for what he has done (2 Tim 4:14).
  - Alexander was a metalworker/coppersmith.
  - He had strongly opposed Paul and his message and had caused Paul significant harm.
  - There are several Alexanders in the New Testament (1 Tim 1:20; Acts 19:33), but they may not be the same person.
- Paul places the matter in God's hands
  - Paul acknowledges the wrong without taking personal vengeance.
  - Do not take revenge, but leave room for God's wrath (Romans 12:19).
- Lesson learned
  - Not everyone who comes into our ministry will support our calling.
  - Don't retaliate against people who hurt you, but protect others from harmful influence.
  - Don't allow someone's opposition to determine your faithfulness.

# But the Lord is always with Paul

- Paul's ultimate dependence is still the Lord.
  - The Lord will repay him (2 Tim 4:14).
  - But the Lord stood by me and strengthened me (2 Tim 4:17).
  - The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack (2 Tim 4:18).
  - To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen (Tim 4:18).
  - People may change. Relationships may change.
  - Ministry circumstances may change. But the Lord remains present and faithful.
- Rethink
  - People are part of the journey, not the foundation of the ministry.
- Reset
  - Don't let yesterday's relationship determine tomorrow's ministry.
- Refocus
  - Don't let people become the center of the ministry.