

sermon notes

Pastor Tony Caffey, VBVF | Second Timothy | October 13, 2024
“The Art of Finishing Well (Part 2)” | **2 Timothy 4:16–22**

Three additional principles for finishing well:

- 1) Be _____ to _____ (4:16)
- 2) Don't ever stop _____ people about
_____ (4:17-18)
- 3) Let _____ be the only thing that stops you
from _____ in people (4:19-22)

Questions for further application of God's Word:

GO DEEPER

Why did Paul's friends abandon him at his first defense? Would it be wrong for Paul to hold a grudge against them? How does Paul demonstrate forgiveness towards them?

Why would Paul preach the gospel at his first defense (4:16–17)? Does Paul have an unhealthy death-wish? What is significant about the fact that the Lord strengthened him for that task?

GET PERSONAL

Why is forgiveness such an important part of the Christian life? Who is our ultimate example of forgiveness? What are some of the consequences of unforgiveness? Is there any unforgiveness or bitterness that you are harboring in your heart? Is there someone you need to forgive? Is there anyone that you need to seek forgiveness from?

Consider what Paul says at the end of this book. Would you be able to say, “I'm fighting the good fight of faith?” In the words of Jim Elliot, are you living dangerous? Are you exhausting yourself on the battlefield of life? Are you telling people about Jesus? Are you investing in people? Are you going to your grave as a faithful soldier of Christ Jesus?

PUT IT INTO PRACTICE

Make a list of all the people that Paul mentions in 2 Timothy 4. How many are there total? What can we conclude from all these people that Paul mentioned? Were all of these individuals faithful friends to Paul?

ADVANCED QUESTION

Why did Paul say about Alexander, “the Lord will repay him according to his deeds” (4:14), and then later say about those who abandoned him at his trial, “May it not be charged against them” (4:16)? What's the difference between those two scenarios? How are these two statements contextually discerned? And how does the fact that he's writing a letter to his understudy, Timothy, frame these statements? Was Paul required by God to forgive Alexander, Demas, and others like them?