

THEME: I've been chosen for a reason to serve in this season!

2 Timothy 2:8-13

8 Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, descendant of David, according to my gospel, 9 for which I suffer hardship even to imprisonment as a criminal; but the word of God is not imprisoned. 10 For this reason I endure all things for the sake of those who are chosen, so that they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus and with it eternal glory. 11 It is a trustworthy statement: For if we died with Him, we will also live with Him; 12 If we endure, we will also reign with Him; If we deny Him, He also will deny us; 13 If we are faithless, He remains faithful, for He cannot deny Himself.

I. REMEMBER - (vs.8)

- A. "Remember Jesus Christ" - Present-tense command; imperative mood
- B. "risen from the dead" - c.f. 1 Corinthians 15:3-4
- C. "descendant of David" - 100% man, as well as 100% God
- D. "according to my gospel" - As given by Jesus Christ Himself

II. SUFFER - (vs.9)

- A. "suffer hardship" - Living for God is hard work, and sometimes it hurts.
- B. "imprisonment as a criminal" - Not a criminal, but treated as one.
- C. "the word of God is not imprisoned" - God's Word will never return to Him void

III. SERVE - (vs.10)

- A. "For this reason I endure all things" - He ministered to others with Heaven in mind
- B. "for the sake of those who are chosen" - 1 Peter 1:1-2
- C. "so that they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus" - the goal
- D. "eternal glory" - This is beyond our feeble comprehension or imagination.

IV. RECITE - (vs.11-13)

- A. "trustworthy statement" - Likely a creed recited or a hymn that was sung.
- B. "if we died with Him, we will also live with Him" - POSITIVE
- C. "If we endure, we will also reign with Him" - POSITIVE
- D. "If we deny Him, He will also deny us" - NEGATIVE
- E. "If we are faithless, He remain faithful" - NEGATIVE
- F. "He cannot deny Himself" - POSITIVE

POINTS OF APPLICATION:

1. A fruitful Christian is someone who constantly remembers Jesus Christ.
2. When Paul taught the gospel, he never held back important parts.
3. Whether free or imprisoned or simply going through a hard time in life, we must be actively spreading the word of God to nonbelievers.
4. The more you serve others the more you'll be afflicted. Accept it and get over it! It is what it is.
5. People who are elect choose God because they were first chosen by God before the foundation of the world.
6. Heaven is real and you will be going there soon enough. Let that truth both energize and sustain you for ministry until that day!
7. Memorizing key passages of Scripture will keep you both rooted in truth and your theology sound. —> (memorize: Sermon on the Mount; Matthew 5-7)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Why do you think God allows Christians to endure so much adversity in life?2. Discuss a time when you experienced persecution for being a Christian?3. Discuss what it means that Jesus Christ is both 100% God and 100% Human. Use scripture references to make your point.4. Discuss some of the more difficult ministries you've ever served in.5. How does memorizing Scripture help you to live a more righteous life? |
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