

LESSON 2

PAUL: WHY WE SHOULD NOT BE ASHAMED OF THE LORD

2 TIMOTHY 1:3 – 18(NIV)

³ I thank God, whom I serve, as my ancestors did, with a clear conscience, as night and day I constantly remember you in my prayers. ⁴ Recalling your tears, I long to see you, so that I may be filled with joy. ⁵ I am reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also. ⁶ For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. ⁷ For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline. ⁸ So do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner. Rather, join with me in suffering for the gospel, by the power of God. ⁹ He has saved us and called us to a holy life—not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time, ¹⁰ but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Saviour, Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. ¹¹ And of this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher. ¹² That is why I am suffering as I am. Yet this is no cause for shame, because I know whom I have believed, and am convinced that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him until that day. ¹³ What you heard from me, keep as the pattern of sound teaching, with faith and love in Christ Jesus. ¹⁴ Guard the good deposit that was entrusted to you—guard it with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us. ¹⁵ You know that everyone in the province of Asia has deserted me, including Phygelus and Hermogenes. ¹⁶ May the Lord show mercy to the household of Onesiphorus, because he often refreshed me and was not ashamed of my chains. ¹⁷ On the contrary, when he was in Rome, he searched hard for me until he found me. ¹⁸ May the Lord grant that he will find mercy from the Lord on that day! You know very well in how many ways he helped me in Ephesus.

GOAL OF LESSON

- To help learners to not be ashamed to tell others about Jesus
- To help learners to not be ashamed of other Christians

1. TEACHER'S PREPARATION

(a) Looking at Scripture - 2 TIMOTHY 1:3 – 13

Bible Passage	Comments
3 I thank God, whom I serve, as my ancestors did, with a clear conscience, as night and day I constantly remember you in my prayers.	Paul constantly prayed for Timothy, his friend, his fellow traveller, his son in the faith, and a strong leader in the Christian church. Although the two men were from each other, their prayers provided a source of mutual encouragement. We too should pray consistently for others, especially for those who do God's work.
4 Recalling your tears, I long to see you, so that I may be filled with joy.	We don't know when Paul and Timothy last parted, but it was probably when Paul was arrested and taken to Rome for his second imprisonment. The tears they shed at parting revealed the depth of their relationship.

<p>5 I am reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also.</p>	<p>Timothy's mother and grandmother, Eunice and Lois, were early Christian converts, possibly through Paul's ministry in their home city, Lystra (Acts 16:1). They communicated their strong Christian faith to Timothy, even though his father was probably not a believer. Don't hide your light at home: our families are fertile fields for planting gospel seeds. Let your parents, children, spouse, brothers, and sisters know of your faith in Jesus, and be sure they see Christ's love, helpfulness, and joy in you.</p>
<p>6 For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands.</p>	<p>Clearly Timothy's spiritual gift had been given to him when Paul and the elders had laid their hands on him and set him apart for ministry (see 1 Timothy 4:14). God gives all Christians gifts to use to build up the body of Christ (see 1 Corinthians 12:4 – 31), and he gives special gifts to some through church leaders, who serve as God's instruments.</p>
<p>7 For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline.</p>	<p>Paul mentions three characteristics of the effective Christian leader: power, love, self-discipline. These are available to us because the Holy Spirit lives in us. Follow his leading each day so that your life will more fully exhibit these characteristics. See Galatians 5:22, 23 for a list of the by-product of the Holy Spirit living in us.</p>
<p>8 So do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner.</p>	<p>In this time of mounting persecution, Timothy may have been afraid to continue preaching the gospel. His fears were based on fact, because believers were being arrested and executed. Paul told Timothy to expect suffering – Timothy, like Paul, would be jailed for preaching the gospel (Hebrews 13:23). But Paul promised Timothy that God would give him strength and that he would be ready when it was his turn to suffer. Even when there is no persecution, it can be difficult to share our faith in Christ. Fortunately we, like Paul and Timothy, can call on the Holy Spirit to give us courage. Don't be ashamed to testify.</p>
<p>9 He has saved us and called us to a holy life—not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time, 10 but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Saviour, Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel</p>	<p>In these verses Paul gives a brief summary of the gospel. God loves us, and sent Christ to die for us. We can have eternal life through faith in him, because he broke the power of death with his resurrection. We do not deserve to be saved, but God offers us salvation anyway. What we must do is believe in him and accept his offer.</p>

<p>11 And of this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher. 12 That is why I am suffering as I am. Yet this is no cause for shame, because I know whom I have believed, and am convinced that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him until that day.</p>	<p>Paul was in prison, but that did not stop his ministry. He carried it on through others like Timothy. Paul had lost all his material possessions, but he would never lose faith. He trusted God to use him regardless of his circumstances. if your situation looks bleak, give your concerns to Christ. He will guard your faith and safely guard all you have entrusted to him until the day of his return. for more on our security in Christ, Rom 8:38,39</p>
<p>13 What you heard from me, keep as the pattern of sound teaching, with faith and love in Christ Jesus. 14 Guard the good deposit that was entrusted to you—guard it with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us.</p>	<p>Timothy was in a time of transition. He had been Paul's bright young helper; soon he would be on his own as leader of a church in a difficult environment. Although his responsibilities were changing, Timothy was not without help. He had everything he needed to face the future, if he would hold on tightly to the Lord's resources. When you are facing difficult transitions, it is good to follow Paul's advice to Timothy and look at your experience. Who is the foundation of your faith? How can you build on that foundation? What gifts has the Holy Spirit given you? Use the gifts you have already been given.</p>
<p>15 You know that everyone in the province of Asia has deserted me, including Phygelus and Hermogenes. 16 May the Lord show mercy to the household of Onesiphorus, because he often refreshed me and was not ashamed of my chains. 17 On the contrary, when he was in Rome, he searched hard for me until he found me. 18 May the Lord grant that he will find mercy from the Lord on that day! You know very well in how many ways he helped me in Ephesus.</p>	<p>Nothing more is known about Phygelus and Hermogenes, who evidently opposed Paul's ministry. These men serve as a warning that even leaders can fall. Onesiphorus was mentioned as a positive example in contrast to these men.</p>

(b) Looking inwardly

1. **MAIN IDEA:** We should never be ashamed of telling others about Jesus because what we believe is the truth and one day Jesus will not be ashamed to welcome us into heaven.
2. **KEY VERSE: 2 Tim 1:12** That is why I am suffering as I am. Yet this is no cause for shame, because I know whom I have believed, and am convinced that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him until that day.
3. **BIBLE BACKGROUND:**
See Above

4. UNDERSTANDING YOUR STUDENTS:

Telling others about Jesus is not an easy thing to do. Our inner reserved nature and the devil making us feel unworthy stop us from being bold to share the message of Christ.

5. DEVELOPING YOUR FAITH:

In this lesson you want to encourage the learners to tell others about Jesus.

1. Help learners understand we should never be afraid to share the truth about Jesus. Jesus said "I Am the Way, the Truth, and the Life."
2. Help learners understand about their personal testimony. Personal testimonies are a great to share about Jesus.
3. Older learners can be taught a simple outline in how to share the gospel message.

2. CONNECT

Here are some suggestions to introduce the lesson. Choose one (or more) that is appropriate for your class.

NO 1

Talk about what it is like going to a new school or into a new group of people. What are our fears? What kind of things do we talk about? We often talk about things we know a lot about. Get the children to think about how you could start a conversation about telling others about Jesus.

NO 2

Talk about places we can learn about Jesus. The church and home will be the most likely places we will learn about Jesus. Talk about the influence of Timothy's mother and grandmother in teaching him the faith. Also talk about the influence Paul the preacher had in sharing about Jesus in Timothy's life.

3. CONTENT

Idea No1

2 Timothy 1:3–18 By Dale Younce

Be Loyal

Some adults live as if they have little or nothing to be ashamed of, at least, partly because of the "anything goes" climate often fostered in society. Other adults have long experience at hiding certain behaviors and faults they would be ashamed of if they were revealed. But what about Christians being ashamed, not of secret sins but of Christ and the gospel? What about the temptation to be silent when Christ's name is treated disrespectfully or when others make fun of Christ or Christian values? From the earliest days Christians have faced the challenge of being loyal to the Christian faith, particularly when they may experience persecution and suffering if they speak up but may be left unscathed if they do not express their commitment

to Jesus. This week's lesson marks out four factors encouraging us to be loyal to Jesus regardless of the circumstances.

Remember Your Spiritual Heritage (3–8)

Second Timothy is the last letter written by the apostle Paul prior to his death. From his prison cell, alone and cold, Paul wrote this very personal letter to Timothy, his son in the faith. Timothy had trusted Christ on Paul's first missionary journey and on Paul's second journey, Timothy joined Paul's missions team. He was not the first in his family to be saved. He was the third generation in his family to trust the Savior. His grandmother Lois and his mother Eunice were Old Testament Jewish believers who understood the Old Testament well enough so that they were prepared to accept Jesus immediately when they first heard the gospel. Apparently Lois and Eunice taught Timothy the truth of Scripture from childhood (2 Tim. 3:15). Timothy's spiritual life had its roots with a believing mother and grandmother teaching their child the Scripture.

Paul calls attention to Timothy's having been gifted and set apart for ministry. By reminding Timothy of his godly heritage and his call to ministry, Paul challenges him not to be ashamed of the gospel. Remembering our spiritual heritage will help us remain loyal to Christ.

Remember the Greatness Of Salvation (9–10)

Paul writes about God's sovereign plan of salvation by grace through faith, apart from works. This is the foundation of the gospel. It is also the basis for God's continuing work in the lives of believers. That plan, formulated before time/space history in eternity past, had at its center the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross as the substitute for our sins. Christ's appearance in history and His death and resurrection not only annulled death but also made known fully the truth of immortality and eternal life, truths not fully understood by Old Testament believers. Remembering the greatness of God and His salvation will help us remain loyal to Christ.

Follow Those Who Are Unashamed (11–15)

As he did in 1 Timothy 1:12–16, so here Paul uses his own life, ministry and suffering as a pattern for living unashamedly for Christ. He lived with unwavering confidence because of the truth of God's power and faithfulness. Timothy, traveling with Paul and observing his lifestyle, learned firsthand what it means to be unashamed of Jesus. Looking at the example of others who have lived unashamedly for Jesus can help us to be loyal to Him.

Support Those Who Are Unashamed (16–18)

Onesiphorus, an Ephesian brother, befriended Paul in prison and ministered fearlessly to Paul during his second imprisonment. He was not ashamed or afraid to visit the apostle there regularly and minister to his needs. Since Paul was in prison, the only thing he could do for Onesiphorus was to pray for him. Paul complimented and prayed for Onesiphorus because he had demonstrated by his actions that he was unashamed. Supporting and praying for those who have been unashamed of the gospel can help us be loyal to Christ.

- See more at: http://www.thealabamabaptist.org/print-edition-article-detail.php?id_art=27094&pricat_art=6#sthash.m4O4zeZM.dpuf

Idea No 2

LESSON 10 – SUFFER WITH ME

II Timothy 1:1-18

Historical Background

The book of Acts closed with the beginning of Paul's first Roman imprisonment (**Acts 28:30-31**), which leaves us with little inspired accounting of what transpired next. According to history, the timeline recorded in **Acts**, and Paul's plans mentioned incidentally in his epistles, we can establish that Paul was most likely imprisoned in the spring of 61 A.D. During this first Roman imprisonment, Paul most likely wrote the epistles to the **Ephesians**, **Colossians**, **Philippians**, and **Philemon**. After being released in the spring of 63 A.D., Paul no doubt traveled to various churches and cities, while visiting and preaching. During this time, most likely in the fall of 63 A.D., Paul would have written **I Timothy** and **Titus**. In July of 64 A.D., Rome was burned, and the emperor, Nero, apparently used the Christians as “scapegoats”. He began a fierce persecution against the Christians that would rage off and on under the cruel hand of multiple Roman emperors until 305 A.D., when Diocletian, the last persecuting Roman emperor died. The persecution officially ended in 313 A.D., when Constantine issued his “Edict of Toleration”.

Introduction and Theme

The climate changed dramatically with the instigation of the Roman persecution in 64 A.D. Paul was captured shortly thereafter and beheaded in 65 or 66 A.D. **II Timothy** was written during Paul's second and final Roman imprisonment, shortly before his execution. Although Paul knew that his execution was imminent (**II Timothy 4:6-8**), his final, personal epistle exhibits a hopeful, encouraging, and even triumphant tone (**II Timothy 4:8, 17-18**). Reoccurring themes of security, trust, hope, and faithfulness fill this closing letter, which prompt the primary charge and lesson, as summarized in **II Timothy 4:2, 5**.

Bible Reading With Questions

Do Not Be Afraid – II Timothy 1:1-7

1. Paul's apostleship was according to what promise? Why would that be important for Paul and us?
2. How can we “*serve God with a pure conscience*”? Does that mean we never sin?
3. Why did Paul want to see Timothy?
4. What about Timothy brought joy to Paul?
5. What kind of gifts were bestowed by “*laying on hands*” of an apostle?
6. In view of such oncoming persecution and death, how can someone maintain an attitude of “*power, love, and a sound mind*” and not be overwhelmed by a disposition of “*fear*”?

Do Not Be Ashamed – II Timothy 1:8-12

7. Of what two things was Timothy not to be ashamed? How was he to manifest this?

8. How are we “*called with a holy calling*”? Lessons for Timothy and us?
9. How would it have been comforting to know that “*God’s grace and purpose*” had been provisioned “*before time began*”?
10. What did Jesus abolish and bring? Lessons for then and now?
11. How could Paul withstand under such hopeless suffering?

Do Not Turn Away – II Timothy 1:13-18

12. To what was Timothy to “*hold fast*” and how? Why would be this difficult?
13. How did the Holy Spirit dwell in Paul and Timothy? What about us?
14. How would you feel if all the Christians in a given province, including churches you helped established, suddenly turned their back on you and disavowed you? How did it affect Paul?
15. Who had not “*turned away*” from Paul? What was remarkable about his service?
16. Why would such a bold, zealous, and caring man need mercy on “*that day*” (verse 18)?

Idea No 3

W. B. Tolar

Be Loyal

Background Passage:

2 Timothy 1:1-18

Lesson Passage:

2 Timothy 1:3-18

Introduction:

This was Paul's last letter not only to Timothy but to anyone. New Testament scholars believe this was Paul's last letter written shortly before Paul was executed in Rome.

I. Remember Your Spiritual Heritage: 2 Tim. 1:3-8

1. Paul prayed for Timothy daily - - 1:3.
2. He thanked God for Timothy's sincere faith and that of Timothy's family - - 1:4-5.
3. Paul challenged Timothy to keep ablaze the gift of God - - 1:6.
4. For God had not given Timothy or any other Christian a spirit of fearfulness, but one of power and love - - 1:7.
5. Thus, Timothy must not be ashamed of the testimony of Christ - - 1:8.

II. Remember the Greatness of Salvation: 2 Tim. 1:9-10

1. Christ has saved us according to His own purpose and grace - - 1:9.
2. God's purpose has been revealed through the appearing of Christ Jesus who overcame death and gives eternal life - - 1:10.

III. Follow Those Who Are Unashamed: 2 Tim. 1:11-15

1. Paul was appointed a teacher and preacher of the gospel - - 1:11.
2. That's why Paul was willing to suffer and he was not ashamed because he knew the One in whom he had believed and knew that Christ would keep him to the end - - 1:12.
3. Paul challenged Timothy to hold to the sound teaching he had received - - 1:13.
4. Timothy was to guard, by the power of the Holy Spirit, the good truth entrusted to him - - 1:14-15.

IV. Support Those Who Are Unashamed: 2 Tim. 1:16-18

1. Paul prayed that God would bless a man named Onesiphorus who had befriended Paul while he was in prison - - 1:16-17.
2. Paul prayed that the Lord would grant him special blessings - - 1:18.

Applications:

1. We need to give special attention when we read 2 Timothy because we are certain that it was Paul's last letter to ever be written.
2. We, like Timothy, need to remember the greatness of our salvation obtained by Christ's death and resurrection.
3. We ought to be grateful Paul was willing to suffer in his dedication to Christ and we ought to be willing to suffer if necessary for our Savior.
4. We, like Paul, can be grateful for friends who stand with us when we suffer because of our Christian commitment.

4. CHALLENGE

NO 1

Before reading today's article, take a quick look at 2 Timothy 1:1-12.

Embarrassing?

Do you have an embarrassing story? Most of us have had one of those situations where we end up looking pretty silly, and wish we could turn the clock back and start the day over. In fact, we all get embarrassed or ashamed at lots of different times in our lives. But Paul in 2 Timothy 1:8 says there is something you definitely shouldn't be ashamed or embarrassed about - *do not be ashamed to testify about the Lord*. The word "Testify" just means to tell people. So Paul is encouraging Timothy, and us to not be ashamed to tell people about the Lord. So of all the things that we can be ashamed about, the Lord Jesus is not one of them.

Why we shouldn't be ashamed

Take a look at verse 9 of 2 Timothy: 1. God has saved us by his grace. It was all him, we had absolutely nothing to do with it. We are 100% saved by his grace and purpose, and from right at the beginning of time. Not only that but he destroyed death and brought in life, eternal life! That is amazing! That is exciting! That is fantastic!! **This is not something to be ashamed or embarrassed about!**

We all get scared

Yes, it happens. We get scared that we will be rejected by our friends. We get scared that people will tease us. We get scared that we won't know what to say. We get scared the conversation will be way too awkward. It's much more comfortable to talk about TV or sport or school. But Paul was willing to be beaten up and thrown in prison for telling people about the Lord Jesus. Jesus has done the most incredible thing. He has saved you from certain death. He loves you more than anyone ever could. So do not be ashamed or embarrassed to tell other people about him.

5. ACTIVITIES – See Activities File

Choose an activity that is age appropriate

NO 1

Timothy's mother and grandmother told him stories and led him to the Christian community. There he met Paul who claims to love him like a son and who ordained him to be a minister. Identify some of the people in your faith family and encourage worshipers of all ages to identify the members of their faith families. This is great chance to explore the importance families and friends have in shaping each other's faith. Encourage households to continue this discussion at home.

Challenge especially young worshipers (but also willing older ones) to ***draw pictures and/or write thank you notes to people who have helped them grow as disciples***. This can be sermon art to be displayed or cards to be delivered in person or mailed after worship.

NO 2

YOUTUBE VIDEOS

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w4GSFluzBSA>
(VERY GOOD)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=63Y_h1WkHS0
(VERY GOOD)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U3Svkm2qypU>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yw8OJNdEeZk>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P93rlu_DfEI

6. HELPQUEST

Use the questions in this section to help you plan a revision quiz.

1. What Paul is reminded of Timothy?
 - a. his sincere love
 - b. his sincere faith
 - c. his sincere worship

2. What does the Spirit of God gives us?
 - a. power, love and self-discipline.
 - b. pain, loneliness and selfishness
 - c. power, pain and pride

3. Do not be of the testimony about our Lord.
 - a. shy
 - b. afraid
 - c. ashamed

4. He has saved us and called us to a life.
 - a. high
 - b. holy
 - c. huge

5. Who has destroyed death and brought life?
 - a. Paul
 - b. Timothy
 - c. Jesus Christ

6. What was given to us before the beginning of time?
 - a. grace
 - b. gas
 - c. game

7. Because of the gospel Paul believed he was appointed as
 - a. a heresy and an apostle and a teacher
 - b. a herald and an apostle and a teacher
 - c. a headmaster and an apostle and a teacher

8. Did Paul's suffering make him ashamed of the gospel?
 - a. yes
 - b. no
 - c. may be

9. What is Paul advice to Timothy about the things he heard from him?
 - a. to keep as the pattern of sound teaching
 - b. to keep as the pattern of teaching
 - c. to keep as the pattern of worldly teaching

10. With whose help Timothy should guard the good deposit entrusted to him?
- Holy Spirit
 - Paul
 - grandmother
11. Who deserted Paul from the province Asia?
- nobody
 - somebody
 - everybody
12. Who were the two people Paul specifically mentioned that left him?
- Phygelus and Hermogenes.
 - Phythagorus and Homies
 - Peter and Andrew
13. What household did Paul pray for?
- the household of Onesiphorus
 - the household of Lydia
 - the household of Onesimus
14. What did this person do for Paul?
- he refreshed him and was not ashamed of his chains
 - he abandoned Paul
 - he rescued Paul
15. In what other place did he searched for Paul?
- Italy
 - Rome
 - Spain

Answers: 1-b, 2-a, 3-c, 4-b, 5-c, 6-a, 7-b, 8-b, 9-a, 10-a, 11-c, 12-a, 13-a, 14-a, 15-b