

Connection Group Questions

Taken from the sermon on June 18, 2017

Combat Manual for the Christian Life - 3

2 Timothy 1:15 – 2:2

Questions for PERSONAL GROWTH

Monday: *Who's with me?*... Please read 1 Timothy 1:15-18. Compare and contrast the three men mentioned in those verses. With the understanding that this is the only time they are referenced in the Bible (Onesiphorus is also mentioned at the end of this epistle, 4:19), what are their legacies throughout the centuries? When you think about your legacy, what do you want people to say about you? Would you consider writing out a "legacy statement" – detailing how you want to be remembered?

Tuesday: *"You've got a friend in me"*... Let's look closely at Onesiphorus (vv.16-18). What are the action steps he took as a faithful friend of the Apostle Paul's? What are some ways we can "refresh" a friend? (think physically, emotionally, spiritually, etc.) And, how can we demonstrate that we are standing by a friend who's going through a difficult (potentially embarrassing) time?

Wednesday: *Grace for today*... Please read 2 Timothy 2:1. God's grace is truly amazing. But it's more than just for salvation. Please read Acts 4:33-34, 20:32, Romans 12:5-7, 2 Cor. 1:12, 12:9, and Titus 2:11-12. What else does God's grace do for us today in addition to saving us? If you are weak in a certain area of life, how can you lean on God's grace to make you strong?

Thursday: *Grace for yesterday*... If you've lived for any number of years, then you've most likely been wounded by someone – maybe even a friend or a loved one. It's natural to want to harbor that hurt and seek vengeance. But it's supernatural, instead, to "be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus" and trust God's plan for overcoming the world. What does applying the commandment in 2:1 look like in how we overcome the hurts and wounds from others? (see Hebrews 12:15, Matthew 6:14, 18:21-35, and Ephesians 4:32)

Friday: *Multiplying faithfulness*... Let's take a good look at 2 Timothy 2:2. Count how many "generations" are in this passage. In other words, who's teaching whom... who in turn is teaching whom? This is the biblical concept of multiplication. It's God's chosen way for the Church to spread the good news of Jesus and the teachings of the Bible to the whole world (Matthew 28:18-20). We are all called to be a link in this multiplying chain of grace and truth. So, who's teaching you, and whom are you teaching? If you're not an active link in this chain, let's take some steps to plug you in to this ultimate calling.

Questions for GROUP DISCUSSION

- Read Prov. 11:25. How does refreshing others refresh you?
- How do we show grace to those in our life? Why is it hard to do? Why is it necessary to do?
- Sherm talked about being Faithful, Available, & Teachable. Are these 3 ideas equal in importance or is one more valuable than the other two?