

Continue Your Training – 2 Timothy 2:3-7

Message Discussion Guide

Discover

- Which statement or career metaphor stood out to you from the worship service?
- Read 2 Timothy 2:3-13
 - What training is needed to be successful as a soldier, an athlete, and a farmer? How does that relate to training for a follower of Jesus Christ? (vs.3-7)
 - Summarize the beliefs and convictions that enabled Paul to persevere in a life of sacrificial ministry? (vs. 8-13)
- Read Ephesians 6:10-20
 - How does this passage help elaborate on the analogy of being in battle as a believer?
 - We talked about the importance of training. Armor is also important as a soldier. What are some truths you can glean from each piece of armor? Pray and ask God to strengthen your armor and to guide you in battle.
- Read I Corinthians 9:24-27
 - How does training help us not be disqualified?
- Read I Corinthians 3:6-7, Matthew 13:1-9, James 5:7
 - Paul uses the analogy of farming. Jesus talks about the parable of the sower. Through both of these passages, what is our role and what is God's role?
 - What role does patience play in sharing the gospel with the world? (James 5:7)

Respond

- What causes you the most distraction from working for God's Kingdom? What do you need to do to help you stay more focused on what God is calling you to do?
- How has your faith in God helped you persevere through a time of disappointment or discouragement?

Bonus for Thinkers

- What is the problem with trying to avoid trials? (see also 1 Peter 1:6-9 for a perspective on this question)

First Baptist Nacogdoches Bible Reading Plan

Day	Scripture
Monday (6/15)	2 Timothy 2:3-13
Tuesday (6/16)	Mark 10:1-16
Wednesday (6/17)	Mark 10:17-31
Thursday (6/18)	Mark 10:32-52
Friday (6/19)	Mark 11:1-33

Daily Devotion Questions

Monday (6/15) – 2 Timothy 2:3-13

- Review the “Respond” questions on the reverse side of this devotion guide.

Tuesday (6/16) – Mark 10:1-16

- From Genesis 2:21-25 what is the purpose of marriage? What further light does Jesus’ teaching shine on marriage and divorce?
- Depending on rabbinical interpretation of law many Pharisees would teach that the law allowed men to divorce their wives for anything indecent which could mean a wife’s immorality to something as simple as burning their breakfast. Jesus asked what did Moses command. The Pharisees responded Moses permitted what? Why is that significant?
- Interesting note: Jesus mentions in verse 12 if a woman divorces her husband (this was bold, Jesus is acknowledging the rights of women which the Jewish law at that time did not include). How is Jesus trying to protect marriage here?
- What childlike qualities was Jesus encouraging in verse 13-16?
- How can you encourage children to come to Jesus?

Wednesday (6/17) – Mark 10:17-31

- What is Jesus teaching us in this passage?
- What might you lose by following Christ? What will you gain?
- What in your life could Jesus point to as something that is preventing you from receiving the kingdom?
- Read I Timothy 6:6-10, how does this shed light on the struggle of the rich young ruler?

Thursday (6/18) – Mark 10:32-52

- If you had one week to live, how would you spend your time? (Let that question sit in your mind as we read from this point to the end of Mark.) How did Jesus choose to spend his last week before his death?
- (Read 10:43-44) What is the servant’s path to greatness? How did Jesus model this? What are some ways you have seen this model by godly men and women in your life?
- (Read 10:46-52) How did Jesus respond to blind Bartimaeus begging on the street? How should we respond to a beggar who approaches you on the street?
- What are some ways you can serve this week?

Friday (6/19) – Mark 11:1-33

- Both the cursing of the fig tree and the clearing of the temple tell us about Jesus’ attitude toward the spiritual condition of the Israelites. How can you apply these events to Christians today?
- Jesus cursed the fig tree that from a distance looked beautiful but it bore no fruit. Ask God to show you one specific area of your life that may seem spiritually mature at first glance, but where you have yet to bear significant fruit. Write it down and ask the Lord to bear fruit and to take away anything that is hindering growth.