

# Encouragement of God's Word

## [2 Timothy 1](#)

Keep Going in the Faith – July 11, 2021



### **Introduction**

Have you ever had something in front of you that you needed to finish? What did you rely on to make it to the end? Have you ever felt weary or afraid as a Christian? You aren't alone. Paul wrote 2 Timothy from a prison in Rome. He reminds the church to run hard, stay in their lane, and to pass the baton to the next guy in Timothy. God calls us to keep going in the faith and to keep the faith going.

### **Pray**

Before you begin, take some time to ask God to help you understand His word, to reveal what needs to change in you, and for the grace to follow Him in response. To help, use [Psalm 119:33-40](#) as a prayer for God to open His word up to you.

### **Sermon Outline**

*How can we keep going in the faith and keep the faith going?*

- I. With God's Help.
- II. With Hard Word.

### **Read & Discuss**

- 1) Read [2 Timothy 1](#)

Who has God provided for you to encourage you and to keep you going in the faith? Timothy had Paul, his mother, and his grandmother who taught Him who God was. God provided for Timothy's ministry by equipping Him with gifts. He equipped Him to serve others, to keep going in the faith and to keep the faith going. God will give us what we need for God has given us His very Words to know Him and to serve Him. The Holy Spirit also gives all Christians gifts to encourage one another. What gifts has God given you to encourage one another and to bring God glory? Are you using your gifts well? God helps us endure. He does not leave us alone. He has been gracious and kind to us. Paul encourages us to share in suffering by the power of God. Who is someone you have seen trust God well in suffering? That person is empowered by the Holy Spirit. The Spirit of God helps us. This Gospel we have been entrusted with is worth suffering for. How often do you take to consider that God's Spirit is within you? What does that mean for you this week? God gives us all the help we could ever need in His Word, His Spirit, and His church body. He guards us and keeps us. How can you rest in His help and encourage others to do the same?

Additional Reading: [1 Corinthians 12](#)

Paul serves God with a clear conscious. Paul was not ashamed of the gospel. What do you consider and conscious and what is it for? Your conscious is your sense of what you believe is right and wrong. Your conscious is not an infallible guide. It can be helpful, educated, and it can also be wrong. You can feel ashamed when you shouldn't or blameless when you shouldn't feel that way. Paul in chains looked shameful, but had nothing to be ashamed of. He was in chains for the gospel. Are you serving God with a clear conscious? Is there something you are trying to hide from God as you serve Him? Or maybe there are ways your

conscious could be adjusted by the word of God through the people God has put into your life who love you and God's word. Paul is not telling us to go looking for pain, but we are called to suffer for the gospel. Suffering is a choice sometimes. It's something we chose to enter into for the sake of the gospel. Have you suffered for the gospel lately? If so, what did that look like for you? We cannot embrace Jesus without embracing the suffering that comes with following Him, but we must remember that this suffering is more than worth it. Are you sometimes ashamed to be associated with Christians or to be a Christian? Never be ashamed of letting it known you are a servant of God and for doing what is right. It is right and normal as a Christian to suffer for the gospel of Christ. Are you evangelizing on a regular basis? If not, is it because you may be afraid to suffer embarrassment or hardship for it? Press on in evangelism and in ministry. God has saved us and called us to live a holy life. We are called to submit to sound doctrine. Part of Christianity is passing on and receiving sound doctrine. Love is hard work but it's the greatest virtue. We are called to suffer in grace and love for others because of the way God has graciously loved us. Sound doctrine must produce a heart of love for God and others. How are you protecting and passing on the gospel to the younger and also being teachable to learn from others as well? How are you using your time, talents and money to serve God's church? God has equipped you with things to build up the church, use them. The gifts are not given to be wasted. The gifts are given to serve. Does your calendar take into account that Christ could come again? Which plans do you care most about? Praise God we have a God who helps us and carries us through it all. He is faithful.

Additional Reading: [Conscience by Andy Naselli](#), [2 Timothy 4:6](#), [2 Timothy 3:12](#)

### **Prayer of Response**

1) After hearing God's Word, what sin do I need to *confess*? From what do I need to *repent*?

2) How should my life be lived this week based on what I have heard? What should I *understand*, *believe*, *desire*, or *do*?

Spend time praying together in response to God's word asking for His help and greater faith to follow Him in the week to come.

If you missed the sermon on Sunday or would like to listen again, visit our website at <https://fbcum.org/sermons-new/>

**\*Next week's sermon text:** we turn to [Colossians 1:24-29](#) "The Hope of Glory"