



2 TIMOTHY

STUDY GUIDE



SHEPHERDCHURCH

LESSON 2

ENDURE HARDSHIP AS A SOLDIER

TO BEGIN

Share about your first job or your favorite job. Tell the group where you worked, what you did, how long you worked for that employer, why you left, if you'd ever work for that employer again, etc.

DISCUSSION PROMPTS

1. Share either something you learned or a belief you had reinforced from the video discussion.

2. In 2 Timothy 2:2, Paul instructs Timothy to pass on his teachings and faith to other people. Who are you currently mentoring, teaching, and/or setting an example for? What are you specifically doing to invest in them? If you aren't pouring into anyone, who in your life could you spiritually leading?

3. Paul invites Timothy to suffer with him (2 Timothy 2:3).

- Why might we not be excited to answer YES to Paul's invitation?
- What happens when people answer NO to suffering for Jesus?
- What is the result when individuals answer YES to suffering for Jesus?

4. Through the metaphor of a soldier (2 Timothy 2:3-4), Paul emphasizes the need for believers to be DEVOTED to Jesus. According to verses 3-4, what are the characteristics of a good soldier? What does it look like for believers to be devoted to Jesus as soldiers are devoted to their commander?

5. Drawing from 2 Timothy 2:3-7, which of the following do you struggle with the most— the devoted soldier, the honest athlete, or the hard-working farmer? What can you do to grow in that specific area?

6. Read 2 Timothy 2:8-10. Holocaust survivor and psychiatrist Viktor Frankl writes, "In some ways suffering ceases to be suffering at the moment it finds a meaning, such as the meaning of a sacrifice." How does this quote correlate with verses 8-10? How has suffering served a greater purpose in your life?

7. 2 Timothy 2:11-13 is one of Paul's trustworthy sayings. What patterns do you notice in these verses? How do these verses relate to what Paul wrote in verses 1-10? How might these verses encourage you during challenging seasons of life?

PERSONAL REFLECTION AND DEEPER STUDY

Each day this week, read 2 Timothy 2:1-13 twice a day in a different Bible version. You can also listen to 2 Timothy 2:1-13 in different Bible versions on the YouVersion Bible app.

Memorize 2 Timothy 2:3 and/or 2 Timothy 2:11-13.

Read Paul's trustworthy sayings— 1 Timothy 1:15; 3:1; 4:9-10; 2 Timothy 2:11-13; and Titus 3:8... Now, process the following questions and write out your answers:

- Which of these sayings is your favorite? Why?
- In what ways are these sayings alike?
- How are these sayings different?
- What is the context for each of these sayings?
 - What was Paul writing about before and after the trustworthy saying?

This week, spend a lot of time reflecting on who you are spiritually leading or who you need to be spiritually mentoring. Ask yourself questions like:

- What have I taught them so far?
- Currently, what are they struggling with?
- What do I need to teach them (or what example do I need to set for them) so they can face that particular struggle?
- How can I best encourage them?
- How can I be generous towards them?