

DISCUSSION GUIDE

DISCUSSION GOAL



To discuss what it looks like to use the final years of our lives for kingdom impact.

ICE BREAKER



What is something in life that you wanted to do or accomplish, but never got around to it? This could be a job, hobby, travel plans, etc.

TEXT



Have a member of your group read the passage aloud.

2 Timothy 2:1-3

You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus, ² and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also. ³ Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus.

2 Timothy 4:6-8

⁶ For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. ⁷ I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. ⁸ Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.

MESSAGE OUTLINE



This is what our pastoral team observed about the passage.

Big Idea: Our final years provide irreplaceable opportunities for spiritual impact.

Key Question: What should our priorities be for maximizing the opportunity of our final years?

1. Godly impact. (2:1)
2. Gospel urgency. (4:6-7)
3. Confident hope. (4:8)

DISCUSSION



- Who is someone in your life that you'd say has 'fought the good fight' (2 Tim 4:7), in other words, someone who has been a faithful example over the long haul?
- 2 Timothy 2:1 shows Paul's relationship with Timothy, calling him, "my child". Who has God called you to pour into as a spiritual mother or father? If you are young, who has God used to pour into you and what impact have they made on your faith?
- Paul writes to Timothy with gospel urgency, knowing his time on earth is coming to an end (2 Tim. 4:6-7). How is this urgency contrary to our culture's view on the last years of our lives?
- Read **Romans 5:3-4**. How do we develop a confident hope? What does it look like to have Christ-centered hope instead of just optimism?
- These passages in 2 Timothy show the need for faithfulness through all stages of life. How can a long-term, gospel-centered perspective help reframe regrets or limitations in your later years?

LIFE APPLICATION



Our final years are an irreplaceable opportunity for spiritual impact. What does it look like for you to set yourself up to engage with even more kingdom work in the next stage(s) of life? Everyone, regardless of age, has someone younger than them to pour into. As a group, brainstorm ways you can identify the individuals God is calling you to pour into, and what it would look like to take the next step in initiating a mentoring relationship with them.

Jot your ideas below and send a picture to your group to remind everyone of your action steps this week.

PRAYER REQUESTS


