



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Reignited

2 Timothy 1: 1-5

1. Take a moment and read our scripture for the week. **2 Timothy 1:1-5** *Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, in keeping with the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus, ² To Timothy, my dear son: Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord. ³ I thank God, whom I serve, as my ancestors did, with a clear conscience, as night and day I constantly remember you in my prayers. ⁴ Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. ⁵ I am reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also.*

What words, phrases, or ideas stand out to you from this passage?

What do you sense God might be saying to you through these verses?

2. Verse 1 speaks of the promise of life that comes to all those who are in Christ. **2 Timothy 1:1-5** *Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, in keeping with the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus.* When you read this verse, do you tend to focus on the promise of eternal life (**John 3:16**) that comes in the next life, or do you focus on the abundant life (**John 10:10**) that comes as we live with Christ right now? Based on what we learned in the last sermon series, how do these two connect/relate?

Speaking about the promise of life in the sermon, I said God does not promise an easy life, but he offers a life of intimate connection and purpose. Assuming you agree, are you currently living a life of intimate connection with Christ? How might you practically deepen that connection?

Are you living with the divine purpose promised by a life in Christ? How might you live out your purpose in Christ more fully right now?

3. In verse 3, Paul speaks of the conscience. **2 Timothy 1:3** *I thank God, whom I serve, as my ancestors did, with a clear conscience, as night and day I constantly remember you in my prayers.* In his later letters, Paul often speaks of the conscience. Our conscience is an inner feeling or voice viewed as a guide to the rightness or wrongness of one's behavior. Tell about a time when your conscience spoke up and affected your behavior or a time you wished you had listened to your conscience. Beyond talking about a clear or guilty conscience, Paul speaks of a weak conscience (**Romans 14:2**), a good conscience (**1 Timothy 1:19**), and a seared conscience (**1 Timothy 4:2**). A weak conscience tells you something is wrong when it is perfectly acceptable to God. A good conscience accurately reveals what is right and wrong. A seared conscience fails to tell you that things you are thinking or doing are wrong. Do you understand the three types of conscience Paul discussed? What are your thoughts about them?

I think it would be a mistake to believe we have a completely weak, good, or seared conscience. I think most of us experience some false guilt resulting from times of a weak conscience. I also believe we might have places where our consciences have been seared, where we do or think wrong things, but we view them as acceptable. Can you share an example of a time when you experienced false guilt, feeling guilty for something you thought, said, or did that was not wrong?

How about an example of something that you thought, said, or did that at the time you felt was acceptable but later understood was wrong?

Do you think with God's help, you could acknowledge places in your life where you currently have some false guilt or are displaying a seared conscience? Could you share one of those?

4. This passage reminds us that families carry a legacy of faith. ⁵ *I am reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you.* What is the legacy of faith that your family gave you?

In the sermon, I said, families carry a legacy of faith. It is important to examine and potentially adjust your legacy. What legacy of faith are you imprinting on your family, and how might you need to adjust it?

5. The title of our current sermon series is Fan Into Flame. It means that you must reignite your passion. Share a story of a time you remember being filled with excitement and passion about your relationship with Christ.

How do you think a person reignites their passion for God? Be honest. Do you need to reignite your passion for God?