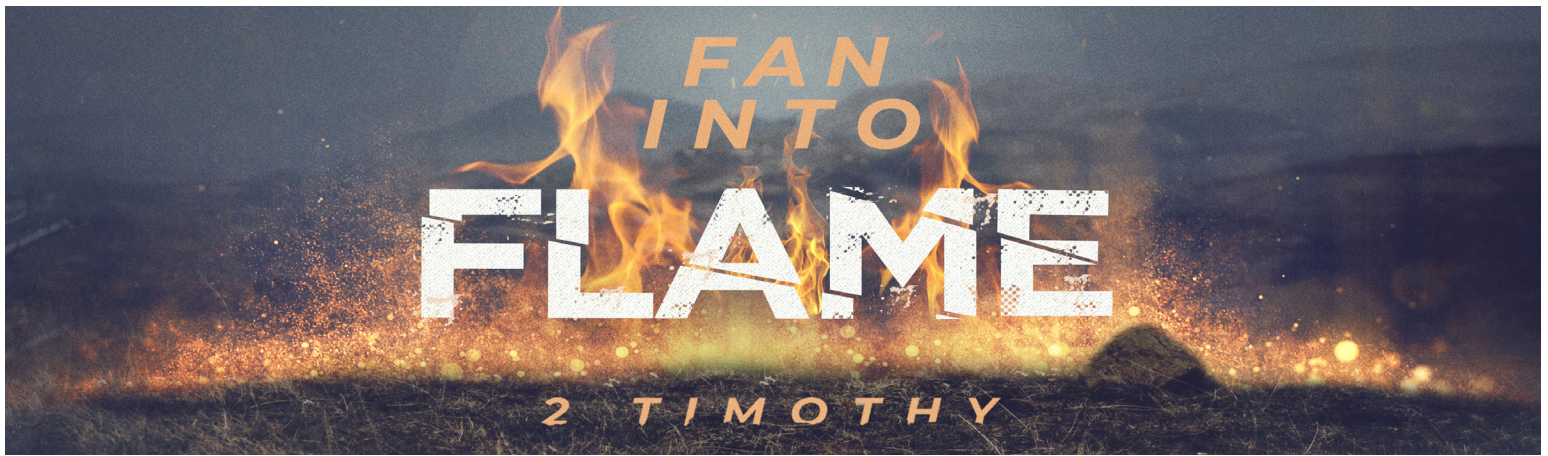




DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Prepared

2 Timothy 3:14-17

1. Please Read **2 Timothy 3:14-17** **But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, ¹⁵ and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶ All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness, ¹⁷ so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.**

These verses are packed with powerful content. What stands out to you as you read them?

What might God be saying to you through these verses, in your current season of life?

2. Let's focus on **2 Timothy 3:14** **But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of.** The word "convinced" means, "to determine; trustworthy". This indicates that one has gone through a process and determined that something is true or trustworthy. Tell the story of the moment or one of the moments that you became convinced that Jesus was who He claims to be. The word "continue" in this verse is in the present continual tense. It is as if Paul is saying to Timothy, "keep going no matter what; fight through the tendency to slow down or become stagnant in your faith." This phrase is similar to Paul's famous phrase from Philippians "press on".

Do you sometimes feel a gravitational pull away from pressing on; a pull towards stagnation in your faith? How do you notice it? How do you fight against?

3. Paul urges Timothy to **continue in what he has learned and become convinced of**. Paul is urging Timothy to keep growing in his faith. Verse 15 reminds us of two ingredients that help us grow. **2 Timothy 3:14-17 But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, ¹⁵ and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.** Do you see those two ingredients?

The first is to lean on the trustworthy people God has placed in our lives. For some of us, like Timothy, those people were parents and grandparents. For others it is Christian leaders and mentors that God brought into our lives. Share about an important person who has, in the past or is currently helping you grow in Christ. What was it about their influence that was specifically impactful?

The second is **the Holy Scriptures**. Share with your group a verse that has been pivotal in your life. Be sure to include your life situation when this verse first began to speak to you. What role that verse has in your life today?

4. Now, let's focus on verse 16 - ¹⁶ **All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness.** Paul reminds us that just as God created mankind by breathing life into Adam, His Word was also brought into existence by His breath. The Word teaches. This reminds us we should approach it as a student, hungry to learn. God's Word also rebukes or convicts us of our sin and wrongdoing. Tell a story about a time when a verse in the Bible convicted you.

Convicting leads to correction. This is an important function of God's Word, helping us make corrections that change our lives. Lastly, the Word trains us. I enjoy this quote, "Training is essential for almost any significant endeavor in life—running a marathon, becoming a surgeon, learning how to play the piano. Spiritual transformation is not a matter of trying harder, but of training wisely."—*John Ortberg*. Being completely honest, would someone observing your life say that you are being trained by God's Word?

After spending some time with this question, do you need to reevaluate how you look at Scripture and the role it plays in your life?

5. The teaching, convicting, correcting, and training serve to prepare us. (NLT) ¹⁷ **God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work.** Training always has a goal. You train for something. Verse 17 informs us that the Bible trains us for everything, for every good work. In the sermon, I said it trains us to serve and for all that life brings. Have you ever had a moment in life you were not ready for because you had not prepared or trained for that situation? Tell that story.

What tangible or concrete changes do you need to make based on this study of 2 Timothy 3:14-17?