

# THE CHARGE

## A STUDY IN 2 TIMOTHY

### Week 3 - 2 Timothy 1:1-13

#### TEXT –

You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus, 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. Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. No soldier gets entangled in civilian pursuits, since his aim is to please the one who enlisted him. An athlete is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules. It is the hard-working farmer who ought to have the first share of the crops. Think over what I say, for the Lord will give you understanding in everything. Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, the offspring of David, as preached in my gospel, for which I am suffering, bound with chains as a criminal. But the word of God is not bound! Therefore, I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory. The saying is trustworthy, for: If we have died with him, we will also live with him; if we endure, we will also reign with him; if we deny him, he also will deny us; if we are faithless, he remains faithful—for he cannot deny himself.

#### INTRODUCTION –

The Apostle Paul reminds Timothy to cling to the teachings of Jesus and to continue to follow his example and teach others. Paul used an example of a steward, an athlete, a farmer, and a soldier to help explain his point.

Being a good steward when we are Christ followers means that we take care of and multiply what God has given us. The gospel is not something we get to keep to ourselves. We are to share it with others. Paul said, “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.” (2 Timothy 2:2). Like Timothy, we are to be disciples who make disciples!

Paul told Timothy to obey God’s Word, like an athlete obeys the rules. He also told Timothy, “Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. No soldier gets entangled in civilian pursuits, since his aim is to please the one who enlisted him” (2 Timothy 2:3-4).

Farmers are hard-working and get to delight in the experience of seeing the crops that they planted produce a good harvest. We also get to delight in the experience of seeing the fruit produced in others when we tell them the good news and they believe in Jesus.

The reality is that we can try on our own to live a life worthy of the gospel, but we will run out of endurance and quite frankly we will end up getting it wrong. The reason for this is because God is God, and we are not. So just as a steward has tasks, a soldier has duties, an athlete has drills, and a farmer has crops... We too have something to follow and it is Jesus!

### **QUESTIONS:**

Q1 - How are we as Christ followers like a professional athlete? Like a soldier? Like a farmer?

Q2 - What does it look like to fuel ourselves in following Jesus?

Q3 - What would life look like if we submit to the gospel?

### **APPLICATION/ACTION -**

We need the gospel to follow the gospel! We cannot follow Jesus by our own strength, instead we need The Spirit of God to drive us towards Him. So, let us grab our notebooks and take some time reflecting on our current walks with Jesus. Think about areas where we currently try to follow God on our own, instead of relying on The Spirit.

### **PRAYER -**

Looking at Psalm 23:1-3 it says this:

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Let's take some time praising God for being the one that leads us through all times of life. Even when we try to do things on our own, He remains faithful. Even when we try to make our own path, His grace is beyond our mistakes and welcomes us back to the path He has before us. Rest in that truth!

## **Worship**

**THIS WEEK, CONSIDER LISTENING TO:**

**10,000 Reasons by Matt Redman**