



Second Timothy

Paul's Last Words

The True Message

Remember Jesus

II Timothy 2:8-13

Lesson Five

Mission Arlington/Mission Metroplex Curriculum

Second Timothy

Paul's Last Words

The True Message—II Timothy 2:8-13

In these verses Paul turns from pictures to some history. It doesn't seem necessary, but Paul told Timothy to remember Jesus Christ. Read II Timothy 2:8-13.

Timothy is to keep in mind that Jesus Christ is Paul's gospel. Notice that this time Paul refers to Jesus as "descended from David." The emphasis here is on history. For the Jews, nothing was more important than who your ancestors were. If you descended from Abraham, you were good. If you were a descendent of King David that was all the better. You were "in."

He said, "This is my Gospel..." If he were writing this today, he might say, "This is my Gospel and I am sticking to it." In Romans 1:16, Paul said that he was not ashamed of the Gospel. He said, "It is the power of God for Salvation to everyone who believes..." Paul would not be discouraged. He was absolutely convinced that this message was worth his very life.

He refers to his chains. Paul was in prison, in Rome, arrested in a round-up of Christians who Nero blamed for the great fire that destroyed most of Rome in July of AD 64. He was in prison. The Romans didn't trust only in prison bars and gates, they chained their most important prisoners to soldiers who stayed with them, day and night. Paul knew he was innocent of the charges against him. He also knew that the Gospel couldn't be chained.

If the Good News, that Jesus had come to earth, lived, died and rose again, could be chained, it would have vanished long ago. But that Good News cannot be chained, it cannot be stopped, it is not of this world. It is eternal.

Paul said, "Therefore, I endure everything..." Paul had suffered many, many things as a missionary and now was facing death. But, he was not afraid of any of it. He was willing to do whatever it took to be sure that all those for whom God had prepared His Kingdom would be saved. He wanted them to be with him in the eternal home to which he, himself, was going, "in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory."

Just think, you as a Christian, have the opportunity to share this great and Good News just like Paul did. It is the same powerful and unchangeable Gospel that it was when Paul lived.

Then Paul launched into a hymn. Some think that this was a hymn being sung in the churches at that time, some think that Paul wrote it for this occasion. It really doesn't matter, because Paul recited the words here to encourage Timothy and anyone else who would read the words.

Second Timothy

Paul's Last Words

The True Message—II Timothy 2:8-13

He sang about Christ dying and said that if we die, we will live again just like Jesus did. He is singing to Christians who would be willing to give up their lives as martyrs for the Gospel. Many people in those days were being killed because they were loyal to their Christian faith. The word martyr, originally meant witness. (See The Revelation 1:5) Later it came to mean one who died because they insisted on giving a Christian witness. (See The Revelation 2:13)

Paul said, don't worry, just like Jesus who, was killed for what He taught and rose again, you who are killed for your testimony will rise again with Him. What a victory!

He said that those who are faithful, "endure" will be rulers in the Heavenly Kingdom of God. Paul often talked of enduring. He was talking here more about enduring hardships than he is holding on till the bitter end. See Philippians 2:14-18.

He said, "If we disown Him, He will disown us." He is repeating the words of Jesus in Mathew 10:33. Jesus said, "Whoever disowns me before men, I disown him before my Father in Heaven."

He said, "If we are faithless, He will remain faithful." Do you hear anything of a joyful testimony of Paul in these words. Paul denied Christ, even tried to kill all the Christ believers. Then, because that same Christ stopped him on the road to Damascus and called him to be an apostle, Paul came to know the faithfulness of God.

A man may deny himself, but God cannot. Way back in Numbers 23:19, the prophet Balaam, quoting God said, "God is not a man, that he should lie, nor a son of man the He should change His mind." So the song ends in this amazing word that even if we fail, even if we do the wrong thing, even if we live in faithlessness, God will remain faithful. He is the same, Scripture says yesterday, today and tomorrow.

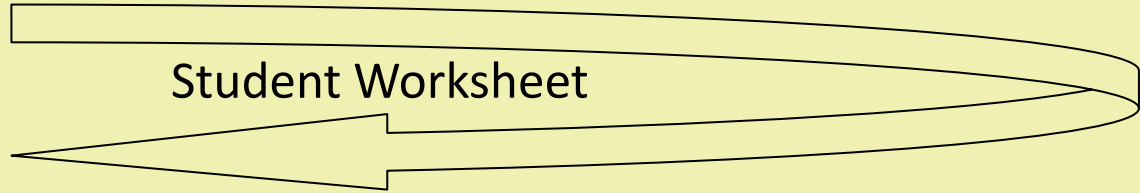
*Underlined words and phrases are to be used in completing the Student Worksheet.

Scripture Memory: "If we are faithless, He will remain faithful, for He cannot disown Himself." II Timothy 2:13

Lesson Goal: To assist students in understanding the truthfulness of the Gospel, and have full assurance that God will remain faithful.

Second Timothy

Paul's Last Words



The True Message—II Timothy 2:8-13

-If you were a Jew in Paul's time, what got you "in?"

-What did Paul say about the Gospel in Romans 1:16?

-Just think, you as a Christian, have the opportunity to share this _____ and Good News just like Paul did. It is the same _____ and _____ Gospel that it was when Paul lived.

-What words of Jesus, recorded in Matthew 10:33, did Paul quote?

-So the song ends in this amazing word that even if we _____, even if we do the wrong thing, even if we live in _____, God will remain faithful. He is the same, Scripture says _____, _____ and _____.

Scripture Memory: "If we are faithless, He will remain faithful, for He cannot disown Himself." II Timothy 2:13

How to begin a Personal Relationship with God:

First, believe that the God of the Bible is the true God.

Second, believe that Jesus, God's Son, was sent to earth to die so that you can have a relationship with God.

Third, ask God to forgive your sins in Jesus' name. Jesus' death on the cross paid the price of every sin you commit.

Fourth, ask Jesus to be your Savior and the Lord of your life.