

General:

- What are you most fearful of in life today? Why?
- Pastor Chip highlighted that "ashamed" here doesn't mean feeling guilt or embarrassment, but about being let down or disappointed by God or the gospel.
 When in your life have you felt disappointed with how following Jesus turned out?
 How does this passage challenge that feeling?
- Paul calls himself "His prisoner"—a prisoner for God. What would it mean for you to view your trials not as random but as being "on mission" with God?
- When you look out into the world, do you see God as in control? Why or why not?
- "Saving and calling often goes together... God has saved us and given us a holy calling." Do you see your life as having purpose? How is that purpose or calling used as part of what God is doing?
- In verses 11 and 12, Paul makes it clear why he suffers—because of the gospel. When you suffer, is it usually because of your faith, or something else? Why does that distinction matter?
- After listening to the sermon, what surprised or intrigued you the most about these
 5 verses from 2 Timothy?

<u>Take Home 1: Suffering is not optional for Christians, but we do have options on how we embrace it (2 Tim. 1:8b)</u>

- How do you view suffering? Something to run from or avoid at all costs, or something to embrace for the sake of Gospel?
- What does your response to suffering or difficulty say to the world about who you are or what you believe?
- Take a moment to read Jesus' words in John 18:33-40. How does remembering that you belong to a different Kingdom change the way you endure trials here?

<u>Take Home 2: We need to discuss, understand, and then reclaim the "holy calling" as God's people (2 Tim. 1:9a)</u>

- How do you reconcile God's holiness and righteousness with His nearness and comfort?
- Pastor Chip highlights that holiness is rooted in the character of God—it's relational. How does your relationship with God overflow into your relationships with others?
- Re-read Gal. 5:13. What's one way you can live out your holy calling this week through service to someone else?

Take Home 3:We must reignite the great hope we have as Christians (2 Tim. 1:12)

- What is your hope anchored in?
- Paul says, "I know whom I have believed." How well do you know Jesus; not just intellectually, but personally? How does that impact your hope?
- What would it look like if the global Church were to be a beacon of hope?
- What would it look like for you to live like a person of hope?