



Timothy

Week 4
2 Tim. 2:1-7

General:

- When you think about your life with Christ, does it feel more like a battle (like a soldier), a race (like an athlete), or a grind (like a farmer)? What does that say about your current season?
- In verse 1, Paul urges Timothy to "be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus." How does grace actually strengthen us? What does that even mean?
- Pastor Chip often says "talent can take you to places where character can't keep you." What happens when someone's gifting or platform grows faster than their integrity?
- Who has poured into your spiritual life like Paul did for Timothy? Who are you pouring into?
- Paul gives 3 metaphors: soldier (focus), athlete (discipline), farmer (work ethic). Which of these three metaphors challenges you the most in your faith? Why?
- Verse 7 says, "Think over what I say, for the Lord will give you understanding..." Why do you think Paul encouraged Timothy to reflect and think rather than just "do"?
- How often do you pause to think deeply about what God is trying to say to you?
- How would you describe your relationship with Jesus when you're in a season of suffering or challenge? What helps you stay grounded in Him?

Take Home 1: Part of the empowering strength of grace is understanding how much the Lord loves us, his children (2 Tim. 2:1)

- How did Pastor Chip's moment of reflection on grace impact you personally? Did it lead you to reflect on anything specific in your life?
- What would it look like for God's grace (not your effort) to be your strength this week?
- Do you tend to see grace as a one-time gift for salvation or an ongoing resource for strength?

Take Home 2: Adopt a perspective shift

- Paul uses the examples of a soldier, farmer, and athlete to shift Timothy's focus. How can you adopt a perspective shift when you're going through challenges?
- Pastor Chip mentioned we can choose what we shine our light on. What are you focused on right now? (Fear? Comfort? Criticism? Self?) How is that shaping your perspective?
- What would need to change in your mindset to become a more spiritually focused, disciplined, or faithful person?

Take Home 3: We need to reclaim the discipline of thinking (2 Tim. 2:7)

- When is the last time you sat down and read Scripture and then spent a few hours pondering and thinking about what you read?
- What would it look like to schedule time to think this week? About Scripture, your habits, or how God is speaking?
- What topic, verse, or concept is God inviting you to ponder more deeply right now?