

# “I ENTRUST TO YOU...”

2009 YOUTH LECTURESHIP  
LESSONS FROM 1 & 2 TIMOTHY



PRESENTED AT THE MEETING PLACE OF THE  
**LAUREL CANYON CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
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# SCHEDULE & TABLE OF CONTENTS

## FRIDAY, MAY 15

7:00 pm	Singing: <i>To The King Of Ages Be Honor And Glory</i>	2
8:00 pm	<b>Session 1</b> <i>It's Not Just How You Start, But How You Finish</i> [Jason Hardin]	3

## SATURDAY, MAY 16

10:00 am	<b>Session 2</b> <i>Living The Good Life</i> [Jason Hardin]	6
10:55 am	<b>Session 3</b> <i>Going Public With Your Faith</i> [Jonathan Brown]	8
1:25 pm	<b>Session 4</b> <i>God's Breath Of Fresh Air</i> [Jonathan Brown]	11
2:10 pm	<b>Small Groups Study</b> [J. Budd, A. McCollough, D. Roush, E. Tustin] <b>Corresponding Study For Parents</b> [David Pike]	14 17
3:25 pm	<b>Session 5</b> <i>When I'm Faithful To God, But Hurt By Others</i> [Jason Hardin]	20

## SUNDAY, MAY 17

10:30 am	<b>Sunday Morning Assembly</b> <i>The View From The Finish Line</i> [Jason Hardin]	22
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FRIDAY, MAY 15  
SINGING: TO THE KING OF AGES BE HONOR AND GLORY

*To the King of ages, immortal, invisible, the only God,  
be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.  
(1 Timothy 1:17)*

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Hymn #495 — Joy To The World  
Prayer

GOD IS OUR KING

Hymn #38 — King Most High  
Hymn #538 — Majesty

GOD IS THE KING OF AGES

Hymn #434 — All Hail The Power Of Jesus' Name  
Hymn #35 — O Worship The King

GOD IS IMMORTAL

Hymn #45 — Come Thou Almighty King  
Hymn #48 — On Zion's Glorious Summit

GOD IS INVISIBLE

Hymn #5 — How Great Thou Art  
Hymn #9 — Our God, He Is Alive

GOD IS THE ONLY GOD

Hymn #41 — Fairest Lord Jesus  
Hymn #505 — Glorify Thy Name

TO OUR GOD BE HONOR AND GLORY FOREVER AND EVER

Hymn #43 — God Is The Fountain Whence  
Hymn #22 — He Is In Our Midst

Prayer

FRIDAY, MAY 15  
SESSION 1: IT'S NOT JUST HOW YOU START,  
BUT HOW YOU FINISH  
JASON HARDIN

INTRODUCTION TO OUR THEME — “I ENTRUST TO YOU...”

**en-trust** [en-truhst]

- verb (used with object)

1. to charge or invest with a trust or responsibility; charge with a specified office or duty involving trust: *We entrusted him with our lives.*
2. to commit (something) in trust to; confide, as for care, use, or performance: *to entrust a secret, money, powers, or work to another.*

I. SPIRIT-BREATHED WORDS FROM A FORMER BLASPHEMER

A. Saul, the zealous persecutor

1. *Acts 7:54-8:3*
2. *Acts 9:1-2, 13-14, 21*
3. *Acts 22:4-5, 19-20*
4. *Acts 26:9-11*

B. Paul, the apostle of Christ Jesus

1. *1 Timothy 1:1*
2. *1 Timothy 1:11-17*
  - a. *“The gospel of the glory of the blessed God...” (1:11a)*

- b. *“...with which I have been entrusted.” (1:11b)*
  
- c. *“I was a blasphemer, persecutor, and insolent opponent.” (1:13)*
  
- d. *“The grace of our Lord overflowed for me.” (1:14)*
  
- e. *“I received mercy for this reason...” (1:16)*
  
- f. **The only appropriate and reasonable reaction?**

## II. **“THIS CHARGE I ENTRUST TO YOU, TIMOTHY” (1:18)**

A. Timothy’s relationship to Paul (1:2; Acts 16:1-5)

B. Timothy’s charge from Paul

- 1. *2 Timothy 1:3-7*
  
- 2. *2 Timothy 1:8-14*
  
- 3. *2 Timothy 3:14-15*
  
- 4. *2 Timothy 2:1-2*

### III. IT'S GREAT TO START THE RACE, BUT HOW WILL YOU FINISH?

#### A. What Timothy was up against

1. *1 Timothy 1:5-7*
2. *1 Timothy 1:19-20*
3. *1 Timothy 4:1-3, 7*
4. *1 Timothy 5:20*
5. *1 Timothy 6:3-5, 20-21*
6. *2 Timothy 2:16-18*
7. *2 Timothy 3:12-13*

#### B. The divine remedy for the destructive plague of sin (*2 Timothy 2:24-26*)

### IV. THE PURPOSE BEHIND AND THE LIVING POWER OF THESE LETTERS

#### A. Their purpose (*1 Timothy 3:14-16*)

#### B. Their living power.

SATURDAY, MAY 16  
SESSION 2: LIVING THE GOOD LIFE  
JASON HARDIN

I. FINDING THE “GOOD” IN PAUL’S LETTERS TO TIMOTHY

1. 1 Tim 1:5 “The aim of our charge is...**a good conscience**...”
2. 1 Tim 1:8 “Now we know that **the law is good**, if one uses it lawfully.”
3. 1 Tim 1:18 “This charge I entrust to you, Timothy...**wage the good warfare**.”
4. 1 Tim 1:19 “...holding faith and **a good conscience**.”
5. 1 Tim 2:3 “**This is good**, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior.”
6. 1 Tim 2:10 “...women who profess godliness—with **good works**.”
7. 1 Tim 3:13 “For those who serve well as deacons gain **a good standing**...”
8. 1 Tim 4:4 “For **everything created by God is good**...”
9. 1 Tim 4:6 “...you will be **a good servant of Christ Jesus**...”
10. 1 Tim 5:10 “...having **a reputation for good works**...”
11. 1 Tim 5:25 “So also **good works are conspicuous**...”
12. 1 Tim 6:2 “...those who benefit by their **good service** are believers and beloved.”
13. 1 Tim 6:12 “Fight **the good fight of the faith**.”
14. 1 Tim 6:13 “...Christ Jesus, who...made **the good confession**...”
15. 1 Tim 6:18 “They are to **do good**, to be **rich in good works**...”
16. 1 Tim 6:19 “...**a good foundation for the future**...”
17. 2 Tim 1:14 “...guard the **good deposit** entrusted to you.”
18. 2 Tim 2:3 “Share in suffering as **a good soldier** of Christ Jesus.”
19. 2 Tim 2:14 “...charge them...not to quarrel about words, which **does no good**...”
20. 2 Tim 2:21 “...useful to the master of the house, ready for **every good work**.”
21. 2 Tim 3:3 “...slandorous, without self-control, brutal, **not loving good**...”
22. 2 Tim 3:17 “...the man of God may be competent, equipped for **every good work**.”
23. 2 Tim 4:7 “I have fought **the good fight**, I have finished the race...”



SATURDAY, MAY 16  
**SESSION 3: GOING PUBLIC WITH YOUR FAITH**  
JONATHAN BROWN

**INTRODUCTION:**

- A. Paul told Timothy to “*Guard...the treasure that was entrusted to you.*” (2 Timothy 1:14)
  - 1. The message of the gospel had been “*entrusted*” to Timothy to use it wisely to convert others.
  - 2. This entrusting of the treasure of the gospel was not just for Timothy; it is for every faithful Christian.
  - 3. What Paul encouraged Timothy to do (and what I am encouraging you today) is to “go public with your faith.”
  
- B. I believe young people especially have a unique opportunity to share their faith.
  - 1. Statistics say that the success rate for getting a Bible Study or inviting someone to church doubles in young people compared to older age groups.
  - 2. Therefore, it is a wonderful time for you to start going public with your faith!

**I. FACTORS THAT MAY KEEP US FROM GOING PUBLIC WITH OUR FAITH**

- A. There were things that worked against Timothy that may have discouraged him from sharing his faith with others.
  - 1. Timothy likely wrestled with personal issues.
    - a. He was young (1 Tim. 4:12).
    - b. He was a second-generation believer (2 Tim. 1:5).
    - c. His father was not a believer (Acts 16:1).
    - d. He may have been “timid” (2 Tim. 1:7-8).
    - e. He seemed to have frequent ailments (1 Tim. 5:23)
    - f. He maybe felt like he just wasn’t a Paul.
  - 2. Others who had gone public with their faith were paying for it!
  
- B. We, also, are going to face personal issues and external problems that are going to tempt us from going public with our faith like we ought.
  - 1. You may face some of the same things as Timothy.
  - 2. Paul’s message to you today would be the same as it was to Timothy 2,000 years ago: “*Guard...the treasure which has been entrusted to you.*”

**II. “DO NOT BE ASHAMED” OF GOING PUBLIC WITH YOUR FAITH  
(2 Timothy 1:8)**

- A. **Do not be ashamed of God** (“*Do not be ashamed of...our Lord*”)
  - 1. There may be times when you are made to feel ashamed and embarrassed about our God.
    - a. But it should not be that way.
    - b. We are called to tell others about who God is, what He has done,

- what He is doing and what He wants to do in our lives.
- c. Don't be ashamed. Be excited!
2. Jesus gave us a very stern warning against being ashamed of God (*Mark 8:38*).
  3. Peter was ashamed of the Lord (*Matt. 26:58; Luke 22:60-61*).
  4. We have to ask ourselves not, "Am I ashamed of God?" but rather, "Is God ashamed of me?" (*Heb. 11:16*)
- B. Do not be ashamed of the gospel** ("*Do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord*")
1. There is a simplicity in the gospel of Christ that makes it a lightning rod for attack and attempts to disprove its claim.
    - a. The Creation account is foolishness to some. Noah. Jonah. Jesus' feeding of the 5,000.
    - b. The gospel itself seems foolish (*1 Cor. 1:21, 25; Rom. 1:22*)
  2. But we should not be ashamed of the gospel (*2 Tim. 1:9-10*).
    - a. The gospel holds the message of salvation for mankind (*Rom. 1:16*).
    - b. It is this gospel that Timothy and we are called to guard.
  3. *1 Peter 3:8-12*
- C. Do not be ashamed of God's people** ("*Do not be ashamed...of me His prisoner*")
1. Have you ever been ashamed to admit that someone is your brother/sister in Christ to someone in the world?
  2. Sometimes, when we are ashamed of our brethren, it causes us to act hypocritically (*Gal. 2:11-13*)
    - a. How you treat your brethren is equivalent to how you treat the Lord (*Matt. 25:35-46; Acts 9:4*).
    - b. It is sad when Christians disown other Christians because they feel ashamed or embarrassed of them.
  3. This is precisely what had happened to Paul (*2 Tim. 1:15; 4:9-10, 16*).
  4. Paul seemed to be concerned that the reason for Timothy's timidity may have laid in the fact that those who had gone public with their faith suffered for it (*2 Tim. 1:6-8*).
  5. Could it be that you are afraid to go public with your faith because you are afraid of being persecuted? (*1 Pet. 4:16; 2 Tim. 1:8*)
- D. There is a down side of going public with your faith** (*2 Timothy 3:10-12*)
1. Here is what to expect from the world if you are going to be a faithful Christian and go public with your faith (*Matt. 5:11*).
  2. Men "*will cast insults at you*" (revile, reproach)
  3. They will "*persecute*" you (lit. chase).
  4. They will "*say all kinds of evil against you falsely*" (slander).

- E. **Going public with your faith also has its rewards** (*Matt. 5:10-12*).
  - 1. It makes the Christian truly happy: *"Blessed...Rejoice and be glad."*
  - 2. It makes the Christian's reward in heaven great.
  - 3. It places him in the company of other great people of faith (such as the prophets): *"for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you."*
  - 4. *"For theirs is the kingdom of heaven"* (*Rom 8:18, 31ff; Acts 7:54-56*).

### III. WHERE TO FIND THE COURAGE TO GO PUBLIC WITH YOUR FAITH (2 Timothy 1:12)

- A. **Paul knew the Lord.**
  - 1. The reason that we are easily tempted to become ashamed about God and avoid going public with our faith is because we don't know God well enough.
  - 2. If you truly know the Lord, you can't help but go public with your faith (*Acts 4:19-20*).
  - 3. We need to develop that relationship.
  
- B. **Paul had entrusted God with himself.**
  - 1. Just as God had entrusted Timothy with the gospel to take care of it and use it wisely, Paul had entrusted God with something very precious as well to take of—his life, his soul.
  - 2. Maybe the reason you have not yet gone public with your faith is because you have not yet committed everything to the Lord.
  - 3. If you are not going public with your faith, you have not yet committed yourself fully to the Lord!

### CONCLUSION:

- A. Isn't it sad that we live in a time when those who should feel ashamed of their actions feel no shame at all?
- B. And yet, sadder still is the fact that we, who should not be ashamed, often are.
- C. Don't let your shame and your fear or your excuses get in the way of going public with your faith.
  - 1. Don't be ashamed of the Lord, His gospel, or His people.
  - 2. Instead, develop a relationship with the Lord and entrust your life to Him.
  - 3. Then go out there and go public with your faith and tell the world about Him!

SATURDAY, MAY 16  
**SESSION 4: GOD'S BREATH OF FRESH AIR**  
JONATHAN BROWN

**INTRODUCTION:**

- A. One of the things that makes us who we are is our attitude toward the Word of God.
  - 1. The authority of the Scriptures is our foundation.
  - 2. It is our desire to understand the word of God more completely and to use it as a guide as we strive to apply it to our daily lives.
- B. The Bible is a book that over the years has provoked a lot of different opinions.
- C. But for us as Christians, the Word of God is the foundation for what we believe and how we act.
  - 1. You should want to be known as a young person who exalts Jesus Christ and is guided by His word.
  - 2. In this lesson, we will discuss five basic beliefs regarding the Word of God on which we take our stand as young people.

**I. THE BIBLE IS INSPIRED (2 Timothy 3:16-17)**

**A. What does the term “*inspired*” mean?**

- 1. The Biblical doctrine of inspiration refers to the very process of how God's word was revealed and recorded.
- 2. Inspiration means that the origin of Scripture is from God.
  - a. Literally, the term means “*God-Breathed*” (NIV)
  - b. In other words, God breathed out Scripture. God spoke it. It is the very word of God.
  - c. It is “*God's Breath of Fresh Air.*”
- 3. *2 Peter 1:10-21*

**B. What inspiration involved (1 Corinthians 2:13).**

- 1. Although the Bible was written by men, they were not its ultimate author.
- 2. This is not to be confused with mechanical dictation
  - a. Though the Holy Spirit told the writers what to write, the personalities, language, and styles of the various writers come out.
  - b. These human elements do not negate inspiration.

**C. The Bible claims inspiration.**

- 1. *2 Sam. 23:2; Jer. 1:9; 1 Cor. 14:37; 1 Thes. 2:13*
- 2. Throughout the Bible, the claims to divine inspiration are consistent.
- 3. No one can rightly argue that the writers did not believe they were teaching God's word.

- D. **Proofs of Biblical inspiration**
  - 1. The uniqueness of the Bible.
  - 2. Fulfilled prophecy (*Isa. 44:7*).
  - 3. The accuracy of the Scriptures.

## II. HIS BREATH IS INFALLIBLE

- A. If the Bible is God's word, then it is truth, and it is not going to be wrong (*John 17:17*).
- B. Infallibility refers to the fact that the Bible is trustworthy in a way that means it will not teach something that will misinform or mislead.
- C. Everything that it affirms is absolutely true.
- D. Everything it says historically is true.

## III. HIS BREATH IS SUFFICIENT (2 Timothy 3:14-17)

- A. God's breath of fresh air not only contains what we need to find salvation, it contains what we need to be made complete or mature (*1 Pet. 1:3*).
- B. No other revelations are needed in our lives (*Luke 16:28-30*).

## IV. HIS BREATH IS AUTHORITATIVE

- A. When it speaks, you had better listen (*Isa. 1:2*).
  - 1. It is authoritative because it is the "breath of fresh air" from the Author of all things.
  - 2. When it speaks, we must follow; where it limits, we must cease (*1 Pet. 4:10*).
- B. Wisdom comes from God and it comes through His Word (*Jer. 8:9*).

## V. HIS BREATH IS POWERFUL

- A. *Hebrews 4:12*
  - 1. God's "breath of fresh air" gets way down into the heart and soul and nature of a person.
  - 2. It cuts deep. It penetrates the heart.

- B. God's "breath of fresh air" will change our lives if we allow it to.

## VI. HIS BREATH IS RELEVANT

- A. If inspired, then the Bible is relevant to all areas of our lives (*Heb. 4:12; 2 Pet. 1:3*).
- B. The Bible is not a dead relic of an unenlightened past.
- C. Instead, "God's breath of fresh air" is a living testimony to a true and powerful God who can transform us from sinners to saints (*Heb. 13:8*).

## VII. HIS BREATH IS CLEAR

- A. The all-powerful God is capable of communicating His will to us in a way that is clear and understandable.
- B. To argue that the Bible cannot be understood would be to accuse God of not clearly communicating His will (*Eph. 5:17*).
- C. "God's breath of fresh air" is clear enough to be understood (*Eph. 3:4*).

## CONCLUSION:

- A. Given that the Bible is inspired, infallible, sufficient, authoritative, powerful, relevant, and clear, it makes sense that it demands a response from us.
  - 1. It is not unreasonable to expect every young Christian to be a regular reader and prayerful student of Scripture.
  - 2. May we strive to be like the Bereans (*Acts 17:11*).
- B. Paul told Timothy to "*be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth.*" (*2 Tim. 2:15*).
- C. How diligently are you taking in "God's breath of fresh air"?

SATURDAY, MAY 16  
**SMALL GROUPS STUDY: “DO YOUR BEST TO PRESENT  
YOURSELF TO GOD AS ONE APPROVED”**

JASON BUDD, ADAM MCCOLLOUGH, DEVIN ROUSH, ERIC TUSTIN

**INTRODUCTION:**

- A. The importance of keeping Bible passages in their original context.
  
- B. Our key thought in this session — *2 Timothy 2:15* — “*Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth.*”

**I. PAUL’S ENCOURAGEMENT TO TIMOTHY**

- A. The “*word of truth*” — God’s word (*2 Tim. 3:16-17; John 17:17*).
  - 1. What does it mean to “*rightly handle*” or “*rightly divide*” this word?
  
  - 2. In what ways are human beings sometimes guilty of adding to and taking away from the word of God? Can you come up with some practical examples?
  
- B. Some simple rules for **honest** Bible study.
  - 1. Always approach the word of God with honesty.
    - a. Even when it’s not convenient.
    - b. Even when the truth may contradict you.
    - c. Even when you must admit that you’re wrong.
    - d. Even when you must make some difficult changes.
    - e. Be honest! (*John 7:17; Luke 8:15*).
  - 2. Work to keep every passage in context.
  - 3. Use the sum of the Scriptures, not just one isolated passage.

4. Allow the Scriptures to remain in harmony with one another.
5. Look to the simple in an effort to define the complex.
6. Pray for wisdom.
7. Remember that you are growing, and growing takes time and effort!

## II. THE BENEFITS OF RIGHTLY HANDLING THE WORD OF TRUTH

- A. *“Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved...”*
  1. Does this mean that we earn God’s blessings?
  2. If not, then how is our faith balanced with God’s grace?
- B. *“...a worker who has no need to be ashamed...”*
- C. *“Persist in this, for by so doing you will save both yourself and your hearers” (1 Timothy 4:16).*

## III. THE CONSEQUENCES OF WRONGLY HANDLING THE WORD OF TRUTH

- A. What did Jesus say about the power of our example and efforts to lead others?  
*(Matthew 15:13-14)*
- B. *“Which the ignorant and unstable twist to their own destruction” (2 Peter 3:16-17).*

- C. How can we make sure that we're not being led astray by those who are not rightly handling the word of truth?

#### IV. "I ENTRUST TO YOU..." — THE POWER BEHIND THAT IDEA

- A. Who wants to go to heaven?
- B. Who wants everyone else in this room to go to heaven?
- C. Who wants to be approved by God?
- D. Who wants to stand before God unashamed?
- E. Who is willing to be a "worker"?

#### CONCLUSION:

- A. *Hebrews 10:35-39*
- B. *Philippians 3:14-16*
- C. *Psalms 62:6*
- D. Will you be shaken?

SATURDAY, MAY 16  
**PARENT'S STUDY: PARENTAL BOOT CAMP**  
DAVID PIKE

**INTRODUCTION:**

A. *“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).*

B. The importance of **Initial-Entry Training (IET)**

**I. PAUL TRAINS TIMOTHY**

A. Timothy's physical parents (*2 Tim. 1:5*).

B. Timothy's spiritual father (*1 Tim. 1:2, 1:18ff; 2 Tim. 1:14; 2:3*).

C. Why is basic training important? (*2 Tim. 3:15*)

D. Why is the IET important?

1. Prepare for proficiency training
2. Maintain proficiency
3. Evaluate knowledge
4. Use throughout military career
5. Become an effective soldier
6. Provides instruction on combat tasks.

E. Parents train future spiritual soldiers for God's army to be proficient, effective, and *“wise unto salvation.”*

**II. THE BIBLE IS GOD'S IET HANDBOOK**

A. What is the parental goal? (*Ephesians 6:4; Colossians 3:20; Ephesians 6:1*).

B. What are the benefits for children? (*Ephesians 6:3*)

C. What do parents have to offer children?

1. Experience
2. Knowledge
3. Wisdom
4. Encouragement
5. Advice
6. Discipline
7. Example

D. How do we instruct and discipline our children to become proficient, effective, and wise soldiers of Christ?

### III. OUR CREED

#### A. A soldier's creed.

1. Committed parents (*2 Tim. 1:8-14; Heb. 11:6; Rom. 10:17; Gal. 2:20*).
2. Action item — **fulfill your commitments!**

#### B. General instructions.

1. The IET covers songs, organization, rank, time, salutes, and honors.
2. Home organization:
  - a. God created the home (*Gen. 1:28; 2:24*).
  - b. Family member roles (*Eph. 5:25-6:4*).
  - c. Eternal time (*2 Cor. 4:16-18*).
3. Action item — **perform proper roles in the home with a focus on eternity!**

#### C. Basic instructions.

1. The IET covers following orders, chain of command, personal appearance, physical fitness, hygiene, soldiering, environmental awareness, guard duty, and terrorism.
2. Basic development:
  - a. Physical, spiritual, knowledge, and emotional maturity (*Luke 2:52; 2 Tim. 3:14-17*).
  - b. Accountable duties of the family (*Eph. 5:25-6:4*).
  - c. Beware of the surrounding environment and stand guard (*2 Tim. 1:2, 4-5, 13-14; 2:22; 4:1, 5, 14-15*).
3. Action item — **be alert and grow in your duties!**

#### D. Core values.

1. Army core values include loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity, and personal courage.
2. Godly values:
  - a. Love-based values (*1 Cor. 13:4-7*).
  - b. Obey laws (*Rom. 13:1-10*).
  - c. Respect/honor God and others (*Heb. 12:28; Eph. 6:1-4*).
3. Action item — **live godly values every day!**

E. **Human relationships.**

1. The IET covers being a member of the team (i.e. the buddy system), legal actions, complying with the uniform code of military justice, standards of conduct, ethics, harassment, policies, personal finances, maintaining spiritual, emotional and physical fitness, and code of conduct.
2. God's code of conduct:
  - a. The spiritual buddy system (*1 Cor. 12; Rom. 12*).
  - b. Conduct and consequences (*Deut. 6:4-9*).
  - c. Maintaining spiritual well-being (*Heb. 13:15-20*).
3. Action item — **teach and practice God's code of conduct!**

F. **Selected common tasks.**

1. The IET covers communications, navigation, weapons, chemical warfare, tactics, and first aid.
2. Parents teach important tactical capabilities:
  - a. We will reap what we sow (*Gal. 6:7*).
  - b. One man, one woman, for life (*Eph. 5:31; Matt. 19:1-9; Gen. 2:26*).
  - c. Abstain from every appearance of evil (*1 Thess. 5:22*).
  - d. Evil companions corrupt good manners (*1 Cor. 15:33*).
  - e. Save your soul and others (*1 Tim. 4:16*).
  - f. Love God and others (*Matt. 22:34-40; Rom. 13:8-10*).
3. Parents teach a trade — Paul as a tentmaker (*Acts 18:3*).
4. Parents teach spiritual, physical, and emotional healing.
  - a. Anger management (*Eph. 4:26-32*).
  - b. Enduring trials and adversity (*1 Cor. 10:12-13; James 1:2-8*).
  - c. Happiness in serving others (*John 13:1-17*).
5. Action item — **teach lifelong coping skills!**

G. **Parental operating modes.**

1. Three operating modes:
  - a. **Consultant** — this parent provides **guidance** and **consultant** services for children.
  - b. **Helicopter** — this parent **hovers** over children and **rescues** them from the hostile world in which they live.
  - c. **Drill Sergeant** — this parent **commands** and **directs** the lives of children.
2. Parents must use **love** and **logic** with their children.

SATURDAY, MAY 16  
SESSION 5: WHEN I'M FAITHFUL TO GOD,  
BUT HURT BY OTHERS  
JASON HARDIN

INTRODUCTION:

- A. The context of Paul's second letter to Timothy.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- B. The jarring, God-allowed reality that we must make an effort to wrap our minds around...

I. PAUL'S INTENSELY PERSONAL LAMENTS

- A. *2 Timothy 1:15 — "You are aware that all who are in Asia turned away from me, among whom are Phygelus and Hermogenes."*
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- B. *2 Timothy 4:9-16 — "Do your best to come to me soon. For Demas, in love with this present world, has deserted me and gone to Thessalonica. Crescens has gone to Galatia, Titus to Dalmatia. Luke alone is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, for he is very useful to me for ministry. Tychicus I have sent to Ephesus. When you come, bring the cloak that I left with Carpus at Troas, also the books, and above all the parchments. Alexander the coppersmith did me great harm; the Lord will repay him according to his deeds. Beware of him yourself, for he strongly opposed our message. At my first defense no one came to stand by me, but all deserted me. May it not be charged against them!"*

II. PAUL'S APPROACH TO DEALING WITH GREAT DISAPPOINTMENT

- A. Treasuring his connection with Jesus as supremely precious (*2 Timothy 4:17a*).

- B. Looking at his hardship from a “big picture” point of view (*2 Timothy 4:17b*).
  
- C. Staying busy as a bondservant of Christ (*2 Timothy 2:1-2, 8-9; 4:13*).
  
- D. Leaving retribution and vengeance in the hands of the Lord (*2 Timothy 4:14*).
  
- E. Remembering those who had been a refreshment to his soul (*2 Timothy 1:16-18; 3:10-11; 4:11, 19, 21*).
  
- F. Praying for those who had disappointed and hurt him (*2 Timothy 4:16*).
  
- G. Clinging to the consistent bookends of his messages (*2 Timothy 1:2; 4:22*).
  
- H. Placing his hope fully in the hands of King Jesus (*2 Timothy 4:18; 1:10-12*).



## II. PAUL HAD AN ABUNDANCE OF PRECIOUS MEMORIES

- A. He could honestly say that he had “*fought the good fight*” (2 Timothy 4:7a).
  
- B. He could honorably say that he had “*finished the race*” (2 Timothy 4:7b).
  
- C. He could genuinely say that he had “*kept the faith*” (2 Timothy 4:7c).

## III. PAUL HAD UNSHAKABLE CONFIDENCE IN A GLORIOUS FUTURE

- A. He looked forward to the “*crown of righteousness*” (2 Timothy 4:8a).
  
- B. He took comfort in the fact that he would stand before the “*Lord, the righteous judge*” (2 Timothy 4:8b).
  
- C. He lived in expectation of an ultimate deliverance from “*every evil deed*” (2 Timothy 4:18a).
  
- D. He rejoiced in the Lord’s triumphant preservation of His saints for the “*heavenly kingdom*” (2 Timothy 4:18b).