

Remember Jesus Christ (2.8)

- This passage opens with Paul telling Timothy to remember Jesus Christ.
- Whatever you are doing, remember to enter the life of Jesus.
- Just Jesus' name is powerful.
- Paul calls Timothy to remember Jesus and his work on the cross.
- Jesus is a descendent of king David. Jesus is the fulfillment of the promises to David and prophecies of Isaiah.
- As the fulfillment of that promise, Jesus is the king of the kingdom of God; a kingdom that works on the principles demonstrated by Jesus's life.
- Paul calls Timothy to remember the resurrection. Because of Jesus' resurrection we have life!
- The resurrection explains how many who doubted Jesus came to believe in Him and be part of His church (ex. James brother of Jesus).
- Think of it this way, we only have 12 manuscripts either by or about Julius Caesar. There are over 5,000 manuscripts and fragments of the New Testament!

Preach the Good News (2.8-10)

- Paul calls all this information about Jesus the good news he preaches.
- We need to describe, declare and preach the good news with our actions. But we also need to use our words, as all are called to preach Jesus everywhere we go.
- Preaching the good news is situationally determined, there isn't a formula.
- Paul describes his chains, but he knows chains won't hold down the kingdom.
- The more the gospel is chained the more it grows. Wherever there is the greatest persecution, the more it grows.
- If Paul is willing to endure everything, then so should we.

Sing it out! (2.11-13)

- Paul breaks out in song, this is most likely an early church of poem or song.
- Jesus' resurrection, his power, and his faithfulness inspire us to sing.
- This song describing Jesus inspires us to work.

Work for it (2.14-15)

- Paul tells Timothy, and us, to remind everybody about all that has been said so far.
- We're called to work in a way that keeps people from arguing over useless things.
- Work hard. Approved workmen are not ashamed (AWANA).
- We are called to dig in so that we can be built up in our faith.
- Are you ready to work?

Discussion Questions

- What are some ways you remember Jesus throughout your week?
- What has your experience been sharing your faith?
- Has there ever been a situation of hardship or persecution that furthered you or somebody you know in their faith? What happened?
- What ways of reflecting on the truth inspire you to 'go to work' for Jesus?