



CELL GUIDE

TOPIC	But As for You, Continue In What You Have Learned	SPEAKER	Ps Low Kok Guan
THEME	2 Timothy – Paul's Charges to Timothy	DATE	14 & 15 May 2022

MESSAGE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

2 Timothy 3 continues to expound on Paul's teachings and instructions to Timothy. Using this chapter, Ps Kok Guan emphasised three main instructions for us to follow, that we may be godly believers.

3 WAYS TOWARDS GODLY LIVING

1. Turn from the ungodly (2 Timothy 3:1-9)

During these end times (from Jesus' ascension till His 2nd coming), there will be terrible times due to terrible people. These people may have an external appearance of godliness, but are inwardly terrible as they love the world more than they love God. Paul warned Timothy against such people. This does not mean that we cut ties with ungodly people – we should be kind to everyone (2 Tim 2:24) – but instead be careful to not be influenced by them.

Paul then raised the example of Jannes and Jambres who were magicians of Pharaoh in Exodus. Although they were able to replicate the initial plagues, their limits were soon exposed. Similarly, men who oppose the Word of God will have their follies exposed (2 Tim 3:9).

Therefore, to turn away from the ways of the ungodly (e.g. lovers of the world, boastful, disobedient and lacking self-control) would be to turn towards godliness (e.g. lovers of God, humble, obedient and full of self-control).

2. Tutored by the godly (2 Timothy 3:10-13)

Paul used the example of his life to remind Timothy that he, and followers of Christ, had endured great persecution. He cited Antioch (Acts 13:50), Iconium (Acts 14:5) and Lystra (Acts 14:19) as places where he had experienced great physical persecution for his teachings and practising of his faith. Here Paul acted as a role model for Timothy to emulate.

In life, we need role models and godly men and women to learn from: Those who hunger daily for God's Word, and walk closely with God on the path of righteousness. Seeking these people out to emulate them as they emulate Christ will help to strengthen our faith.

3. Train to be godly (2 Timothy 3:14-17)

Paul urged Timothy to continue learning because he had learned from the Scriptures since he was young and knew of the amazing salvation a believer has in Christ. He told him to keep learning, knowing that all Scripture is God-breathed and useful for teaching, reproof, and correction.

Teaching and training are general ways to help us learn from the Word of God to become good servants of God. Periodically, rebuking followed by correcting are needed when specific areas of people's lives need realignment back to the Word of God. Correcting someone should be done with clarity, accuracy, respect, and expectations, so that they may be trained to be godly (1 Tim 4:7).

CONCLUSION

We need to strive to be godly and to be complete and equipped for every good work (2 Tim 3:17). Ultimately, we are responsible for our own growth. How much do we want to grow in our relationship with God? It is completely up to us. Continue with what you have learned, be steadfast in your walk, surround yourself with godly believers, and keep growing.

QUESTIONS

1. What aspects of people who are “lovers of themselves” in 2 Tim 3:1-9 stand out to you? How have you personally been affected by these godless traits?

2. Reflect on the godly people you have encountered in your life. Do you have someone currently in your life whom you can learn godliness from? What are the characteristics of godliness that you see in them and want to work towards?

3. Learning is a lifelong process. Every Christian is far from perfect, which is why we need to keep aiming to grow daily. Have you been growing in your walk with God, or have you stagnated? How can you overcome the struggles you face in your walk with God and grow in Him?