



CELL GUIDE

TOPIC	Be Strong In The Grace That Is In Christ Jesus	SPEAKER	DSP Edric Sng
THEME	2 Timothy - Paul's Charges to Timothy	DATE	7 & 8 May 2022

MESSAGE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

This sermon is the second part of the sermon series on 2 Timothy, which is filled with urgent lessons that Apostle Paul passionately leaves behind for Timothy on how to live the life promised in Christ Jesus.

2 KEYS TO LIVING A LIFE OF PROMISE

1. Be strong for the work of God (2 Tim 2:1-13)

Paul encourages Timothy to be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus and reminds him to be a good disciple in the Lord. God's work requires:

- a) **Strong discipleship (2 Tim 2:1-3)** - Paul's goal was not just to teach Timothy, but to teach Timothy to be a teacher to others, who will be teachers to many more. We were reminded to not only make disciples, but disciple-makers. This is accomplished by identifying, equipping, empowering and multiplying leaders. The disciple-maker teaches, entrusts and coaches as the disciple hears, emulates and teaches; and the cycle of discipleship repeats itself. In BBTC, the cycle of the disciple's journey involves starting and settling people in church, encouraging them to rise up to serve and shepherd in church, and, finally, sharing Christ as the disciple matures in Him.
- b) **Strong discipline (2 Tim 2:4-6)** - We are warned not to be distracted, deluded and derailed by the desires of the flesh, selfish ambitions and things of the world. Always keep our eyes on Jesus, listen, surrender fully and obey our 'commanding officer' - God.
- c) **Strong desire (2 Tim 2:8-13)** - We need to have the right desire and motive in the things we do. We are reminded to remember Jesus Christ whom we love because He first loved us. We can always go back to the "fuel tank" of the abundant Grace of God to fill us and see us through life's valleys and sufferings. The desire to know God motivates the desire to make Him known.

2. Be strong in the Word of God (2 Tim 2:14-26)

Paul urged Timothy to remind God's people to avoid controversies over the Word and to gently teach those who need to repent. DSP Edric reminds us of these responses to stand firm in the Word of God.

- a) **God's Word must be rightly handled (2 Tim 2:14-18)** - Instead of quarrelling over unimportant details and indulging in godless chatter that destroys others' faith, keep reminding God's people to rightly handle the word of truth and avoid foolish arguments. Always check interpretations and opinions against the Word of God with the goal of building each other up in the Word.
- b) **God's Word points us to repentance (2 Tim 2:19-21)** - God's Word guides us to do what is good/holy/useful/honorable, like gold/silver which will be refined in the fire (Mal 3:3). God's Word also reveals the wicked/unholy/dishonorable, like wood/hay/straw (1Cor 3:10-15) for us to stop doing and repent. Let the Word of God lead us (e.g. what does the Word say, what would Jesus say) and consider the eternal consequence of the action to determine the things we ought to keep or forgo.
- c) **God's Word demands the right response (2 Tim 2:22-26)** - The devil traps opponents of God's Word with pride, puffing them up with supposed knowledge to disobey God's Word and do Satan's will. However, if we choose to obey God's Word and do His will, we will gently instruct them with the right posture of building them up and leading them to repentance to know the truth.

CONCLUSION

DSP Edric summarised that the strength for the work of God comes from the Word of God, which tells of the grace, goodness and promises of God. Without tapping into the "fuel tank" of God's abundant grace, every work that we do in our own strength is finite and meaningless. To be strong in the Lord, we need to put aside self to receive His grace, so that God can live fully within us.

QUESTIONS

1. List the 3 requirements to be strong for the work of God. Which of these areas are you the strongest/weakest in and why?

2. God's word must be RIGHTLY HANDLED. It points us to REPENTANCE and it demands the RIGHT RESPONSE. Which of these Rs do you personally find the most challenging and why?

3. At the end of the day, being strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus is about recognising that we are weak, stepping aside and allowing Jesus to live through us. What is one takeaway from this week's message that spoke to you and what is one action you would like to take to help you grow in this area?