



June 24-26, 2023

# ST PAUL'S LUTHERAN

Please use this card to reflect on the sermon. It can be used for discussion in a group, for personal study of the Word, and as a "sermon summary" for our Confirmation Students. May God bless our listening and study of His Word!

**2 Timothy** is often called "The Apostle Paul's Last Will and Testament." Paul is enduring a difficult imprisonment and it is clear to him that he will be put to death for the faith. His Last Words we study today are of great importance for our faith and life right now and in view of all that we will endure.

## 2 Timothy 4:1-8

**"We are Christ's Contract Workers until the Crown."**

**Verse 1:** Paul calls on the authority of God and his Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ and the perspective of knowing Jesus is coming back soon and his kingdom comes. What effect would this have on Timothy as he listens to Paul's charge to him?

Why is having a will important?

**Verse 2:** Paul doesn't talk about results here, just Timothy's mission, goal and purpose. **Preach the Word.** He is to herald the message he's been given and to do it when he might expect to do it and when it might be unexpected. Circle the times that we would consider "in season." Put an "x" through the times we would consider "out of season."

Sunday Morning Church      Lunch table at the factory  
Locker room after phy ed      Pastor hospital visit  
Having a beverage with a friend      Bible Class

Timothy is to preach both Law and Gospel. Why is it important for us as we share God's Word to do so with patience?

Why do we need to be careful about how and what we teach?

**Verse 3:** What are some things people don't want to hear about at church or anywhere?

What do people need to hear about at church?

Paul reminds us that there are a lot of false teachers who are happy to share false doctrine.

**Verse 4:** What are some myths some Christian denominations hold to today?

**Verse 5:** Doing this work won't make Timothy or us popular with certain people. Why is this work, the work of sharing the Good news of God's Word worth all the pain it takes and the patience needed?

**Verse 6:** Paul's life is the last thing he has to give the Lord, much like the drink offering poured out on the sacrifice on the altar as the last act of the offering. What are important things for us to speak and think about in our last days, and now?

**Verse 7:** Paul's fight was coming to an end. The finish line was in sight. He had kept the faith. What are habits we can form and things we can do that show in our lives the importance of proclaiming God's Word truthfully and holding onto it with all our heart?

**Verse 8:** We are saved by God's grace alone, his righteousness and not our own. His gift at our death will be a crown of righteousness for us to wear – no sin, no shame, no guilt. What bliss! He judges righteously. Why is his righteous judgment a scary thing for those who reject Jesus and God's Word?

Why is his righteous judgment the most precious comfort to us who trust in Jesus for our forgiveness and eternal life and trust his promises?