





Letters to my Sons

THE PASTORAL EPISTLES

GROUP OR FAMILY SESSION 5

1. Watch the sermon titled "God Wrote a Book" on the Jesse Campbell Ministries YouTube Channel
2. Apply your life to the Bible alongside your group or family with these honest questions.
3. Dive deeper into the text through Devotions 402-407 ([podcast/video](#)) and share them with the one you're discipling.



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GROUP/FAMILY SESSION 5

2 TIMOTHY 4:1-8

This Week's Sermon exposit 2 Tim. 3:1-4:5

Devotions 402-407 ([podcast/video](#)) cover 2 Tim. 4:9-22

[At www.JesseCampbellMinistries.com](http://www.JesseCampbellMinistries.com)

CONTEXT:

What would you write to your beloved protégé if you knew this could be your last contact? The text to which we will together apply our lives today is unique in Paul's writings. When writing to the Philippians, Paul knew he would be delivered. When writing this letter, however, Paul knew he would die. So, he includes a charge to his reader that is not found anywhere else in his writings and it is truly spectacular.

THE BIG IDEA OF THE TEXT:

Before God the Father and Christ Jesus the Judge of the living and the dead, Paul charged Timothy to preach the Word absolutely no matter what, evangelizing and fulfilling his ministry.

While our sermons and sessions rarely overlap, this week's session and sermon overlap by five verses because these particular five verses are so vitally important in the life of the modern church. Verses 3 and 4 in particular are to be both preached and discussed. We have heard them preached, now let's discuss them. Have you heard something preached that convicted you and so you sought out instead some source of preaching or even worldly wisdom that was less convicting and more affirming of what you wanted to hear? What are the particular "itches" today for which the world seeks out false-teachers to "scratch?"

[illegible]



BIBLICAL TEXT (CSB)

2 Timothy 4:1 I solemnly charge you before God and Christ Jesus, who is going to judge the living and the dead, and because of his appearing and his kingdom: 2 Preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; correct, rebuke, and encourage with great patience and teaching. 3 For the time will come when people will not tolerate sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, will multiply teachers for themselves because they have an itch to hear what they want to hear. 4 They will turn away from hearing the truth and will turn aside to myths. 5 But as for you, exercise self-control in everything, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

6 For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time for my departure is close. 7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. 8 There is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me, but to all those who have loved his appearing.

APPLYING OUR LIVES TO THE TEXT TOGETHER:



- What effect does the coming judgment of God have on our ministries – both the ministries of pastors in churches and the ministries of individuals in the places we work and live?
- Paul charged Timothy to preach the Word, being ready "in season and out of season." Is biblical preaching currently "in season" or "out of season" in our culture today? Explain.
- Describe the irony of recruiting and promoting teachers who teach exactly what you *want* to hear (v.3) as opposed to exactly what God said in His Word. Why is this self-defeating?
- Is verse 4 coming true in our culture today as well? Give an example from popular Christian teachings, or secular wisdom.
- As a group, pray right now for your pastor according to what verse 5 expects of him; self-control, endurance in hardship, evangelizing the lost, and fulfilling his ministry calling.
- Why is it a common notion in modern churches that pastors are different from evangelists when verse 5 clearly includes "do the work of an evangelist" in the pastoral charge?
- Are you on trajectory to be able to make the same proclamation as Paul in verses 7 and 8?



THE TAKEAWAY

SO WHAT, CHURCH?

PASTORS:

BEFORE GOD AND CHRIST JESUS WHO WILL JUDGE THE LIVING AND THE DEAD, I
WILL PREACH THE WORD! I WILL BE READY IN SEASON AND OUT OF SEASON. I
WILL CORRECT, REBUKE, AND ENCOURAGE WITH GREAT PATIENCE AND
TEACHING. I WILL EXERCISE SELF-CONTROL IN EVERYTHING, I WILL ENDURE
HARDSHIP, I WILL DO THE WORK OF AN EVANGELIST. I WILL FULFILL MY MINISTRY.

CHURCH MEMBERS:

WE WILL NOT SEEK OUT TEACHERS WHO JUST TELL US WHAT WE WANT TO HEAR.
WE REFUSE TO ENTER THE IDEOLOGICAL ECHO CHAMBER. WE WILL HONOR THE
BIBLE AS THE INSPIRED WORD OF GOD IN ALL THINGS!

TO COVER THE SUBSEQUENT SCRIPTURE IN DAILY DEVOTIONS 402-407:
SUBSCRIBE TO JESSE CAMPBELL MINISTRIES YOUTUBE AND PODCAST

FOR PARENTS:

How to Show Your Kids Jesus in This Passage:

All Scripture points to Jesus. Here is how you can take what God showed you in this text and disciple your child with it! You don't need a seminary degree and you don't need to be perfect. Just point to Jesus. He is perfect.



Jesus is coming back one day. In the meantime, we have His perfect Word – the Bible. We have his Holy Spirit within us if we believe. Even though all sorts of teachings that are different from the Bible come and go, we as a family will strive to stay true to the Bible. When we see Jesus face-to-face one day, we hope to have been faithful to His Word. Let's say a prayer for our pastors and for all of the churches; that they would preach God's Word no matter what the crowds want to hear.

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