

TORCH Message Notes

Part 4: Faithfulness

2 Timothy 2:1-13

August 6/7, 2016

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The value of faithfulness is inextricably tied to the value of what is being handled.

Fighting to stay faithful—

1. Be confident in the grace you've been given by God (2:1).

Make me a captive, Lord,
And then I shall be free.
Force me to render up my sword,
And I shall conqueror be.
I sink in life's alarms
When by myself I stand.
Imprison me within Thine arms,
And strong shall be my hand.—George Matheson

2. Give attention to building up future leaders (2:2).
3. Keep going even when you hit difficult stretches (2:3 – 7).

“This job has been given to me to do. Therefore, it is a gift. Therefore, it is a privilege. Therefore, it is an offering I may make to God. Therefore, it is to be done gladly, if it is done for Him. Here, not somewhere else, I may learn God's way. In this job, not in some other, God looks for faithfulness.” — Elisabeth Elliot

4. Emphasize the gospel all the way along—that is worth dying for (2:8 – 10).
5. Remember God's total faithfulness to those who belong to Him (2:11 – 13).

TORCH Discussion Questions

Part 4: Faithfulness

1. As you think back on ENCOUNTER, what is one thing you remember?
2. Paul begins with the call to Timothy to "be strong in grace." Why does he give that instruction rather than "be strong in your gifts," "be strong in knowledge" or "be strong in willpower"?
3. What are some of the many ways that we find encouragement from others in our spiritual journey?
4. Have you ever been mentored or had someone provide a lot of encouragement to you in your spiritual growth? Share what that has been like.
5. When we train others, become an example to others, or encourage others in their faith, how do we end up benefiting as well?
6. What do each of the three images in verses 3-7 illustrate about the ministry of entrusting the gospel to others who can pass it on?
7. Why do you think Paul cites these specific attributes of Christ (v. 8)? How might his understanding of Christ explain Paul's own confidence even while he is imprisoned (v. 9)?
8. What gives Paul the courage to endure (vv. 10-13)?
9. In what ways do you feel like God might be encouraging you to be even more faithful through this series? Is there one thing you could do this week to be faithful with the gospel in the place God has you?