

Introduction: We want to love, mend, train and send people like you. That is the essential calling on our church -- to make disciples who have been loved into wholeness and trained into the ability to bring wholeness to others. Before we can effectively train people, we must understand the purpose of that training. In this text we are given three basic goals for the people we are developing in God. We want them to:

1. **Come to salvation** in Christ Jesus (and with it, Eternal Glory);
2. **Advance in the process of transformation**, preparation and usefulness; and,
3. **Escape the snares** of the devil, who holds them captive to do his will.

Don't forget that the ultimate goal of discipleship is to develop people to be able to do for others what we have done for them. Our training is successful only when they are doing in the lives of other people what we have done in their lives. Paul's letter to Timothy gives pointers on how Timothy can effectively train his followers the same way Paul trained Timothy.

2 Timothy 2 (Notes)

¹⁴Remind *them* of these things, and solemnly charge *them* in the presence of God not to wrangle about words, which is useless, and leads to the ruin of the hearers.

¹⁵Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, handling accurately the word of truth.

¹⁶But avoid worldly and empty chatter, for it will lead to further ungodliness...

¹⁹Nevertheless, the firm foundation of God stands, having this seal, "The Lord knows those who are His," and, "Let everyone who names the name of the Lord abstain from wickedness."

²⁰Now in a large house there are not only gold and silver vessels, but also vessels of wood and of earthenware, and some to honor and some to dishonor.

²¹Therefore, if a man cleanses himself from these things, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified, useful to the Master, prepared for every good work.

²²Now flee from youthful lusts, and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart.

²³But refuse foolish and ignorant speculations, knowing that they produce quarrels.

²⁴And the Lord's bond-servant must not be quarrelsome, but be kind to all, able to teach, patient when wronged,

²⁵with gentleness correcting those who are in opposition, if perhaps God may grant them repentance leading to the knowledge of the truth,

²⁶and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, having been held captive by him to do his will.

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2 Timothy 2

^{2:1}You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.

²And the things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, these entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also.

³Suffer hardship with me, as a good soldier of Christ Jesus.

⁴No soldier in active service entangles himself in the affairs of everyday life, so that he may please the one who enlisted him as a soldier.

⁵And also if anyone competes as an athlete, he does not win the prize unless he competes according to the rules.

⁶The hard-working farmer ought to be the first to receive his share of the crops.

⁸**Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, descendant of David, according to my gospel.**

⁹for which I suffer hardship even to imprisonment as a criminal, but the word of God is not imprisoned.

¹⁰For this reason I endure all things for the sake of those who are chosen, that they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus and with it eternal glory.