INTRODUCTION, BACKGROUND, AND OVERVIEW
2 TIMOTHY 1:1-2

BIBLE STUDY RESOURCES:
 Holy Bible
 2 Timothy Teaching Schedule
 Participant Questionnaire/Worksheet
 Paul’s Letters and Missionary Journeys
 Outline of the Second Letter to Timothy

TOPICS:
Author, Addressee(s)/Audience, Date Written, Setting,
Occasion/Purpose for Writing, Message, and Main Themes of Boldness,
Faithfulness, Preaching and Teaching, and Error

OPEN IT QUESTIONS
A. Have you ever felt equipped and empowered by someone in the faith? Briefly explain the experience.

________________________________________________________________________
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B. Have you ever equipped and empowered someone else in the faith? Briefly explain the experience.

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BACKGROUND AND HISTORICAL CONTEXT

AUTHOR
1. Who is the author of 2 Timothy? (1:1)

ADDRESS(S)/AUDIENCE
2. To whom is this letter addressed? (1:2)

3. How did Paul describe his relationship with the addressee of this letter? (1:2)

4. How was Paul’s greeting to this addressee different than to addressees in his other letters with the exception of the first letter to Timothy? (1:2)

DATE WRITTEN
5. When was 2 Timothy written? (See Paul’s Letters and Missionary Journeys Chart)
6. From where was 2 Timothy written? (See Paul’s Letters and Missionary Journeys Chart)

7. For what reason did Paul write this letter to Timothy?
THE MESSAGE

8. What is the overall message in 2 Timothy?

Paul’s second letter to Timothy is a moving letter of farewell to the young pastor in Ephesus. In it we find a message of tremendous significance for the global church: Christians and especially Christian leaders are called to share in suffering as they hold fast to Scripture and to truth while pursuing godliness and encouraging others to do the same.

MAIN THEMES

9. What are the main themes in the book of 2 Timothy?

The main themes in the book of 2 Timothy include: Boldness, Faithfulness, Preaching and Teaching, and Error.

Boldness (1:5-12; 4:1-5)
Paul knew that Timothy soon would face opposition and persecution and might become disheartened by Paul’s imprisonment and death (1:8-9). He also knew that Timothy had the tendency to be timid, so Paul reminded him that God gives a spirit of power, love, and self-discipline, not timidity (1:7). And Paul urged Timothy to carry out his ministry without fear or shame, to utilize boldly the gifts of preaching and teaching that the Holy Spirit had given him.
10. What is the importance of cultivating boldness to use one’s god given spiritual gifts to serve in the church, even when faced with opposition?

Faithfulness (1:13-14; 2:1, 3-13; 3:14-15). Because of his difficult situation, Timothy may have been tempted to waver in his faith or even to desert the cause of Christ as others had done (4:10, 16). To resist this temptation, Timothy was to remember Christ’s faithfulness in suffering and dying for our sins. In addition, Paul’s own example was important, for he had been faithful through countless trials and was still serving Christ, even in prison. Paul urged Timothy to maintain sound doctrine, to be loyal and diligent, and to endure.

11. What is the importance for today to remain strong in our faithfulness to Christ.

Preaching and Teaching (2:2, 22-26; 3:16-17; 4:1-5). Paul had spent most of his life spreading the Good News, winning people to Christ, teaching new Christians, and establishing new churches. Paul had trained Timothy to follow in his footsteps, to preach and teach the gospel. So facing the reality of his own death, Paul passed the leadership torch to Timothy and encouraged him to train others who would be able to carry on after Timothy was gone. Timothy should train these men and women in sound doctrine, in being totally committed to Christ, and in how to teach. In large measure we have heard the gospel and have believed because Paul and Timothy were faithful to teach others how to teach others.
12. What is the importance for today to develop a strong preaching and teaching ministry in the church?

Error (2:14-21; 3:1-13; 4:9-18). Wherever there is truth, lies will arise. Human beings are sinful and will use anything, even religious causes, to meet their self-centered needs. Remember, too, that Satan is constantly twisting the truth and attempting to deceive, so we shouldn’t be surprised that false teachers abound. Paul warned Timothy about heretics and spiritual dropouts. Timothy was not to be surprised, discouraged, or defeated by these false teachers and deserters. Instead, he should stay strong in his faith, confront, and refute those who would lead the church astray, and continue to boldly preach and teach the truth. And Paul reminded Timothy that God’s word, not theories and philosophies, contains God’s truth (see 2:15; 3:16-17).

13. What should believers do to prepare to defend the faith and counter spiritual error and heretics?

[Source: Life Application New Testament Commentary and LessonMaker]
Welcome to Bible Study

New Hope Missionary Baptist Church of Southfield, Michigan

**Guest Facilitators**
Robbin Cooper, Sunday School Supt.
Jacqueline Bray, Instructor
Jonathan Clark, Instructor
Kendall Taylor, Instructor
Vineta Mitchell, Instructor
Chaplain Gloria Vinson, Instructor

**Facilitators**
Rev. Rodney Kemp
Rev. Valerie Crump
Rev. Jacqueline Albert
Dean Donna Wilson
Alicia Martin, Minister-in-Training
PRAYER

- Sick
- Bereaved
- Our Country
- The World
BIBLE STUDY RESOURCES

- Holy Bible
- 2 Timothy Teaching Schedule
- Participant Questionnaire/Worksheet
- Paul’s Letters and Missionary Journeys
- Macedonia & Ephesians Map
- Outline of the Second Letter to Timothy
2 Timothy
“Introduction and Background”

Topics
2 Timothy
“Introduction and Background”

Topics
- Author
- Audience
- Date Written
- Setting
- Occasion/Purpose
- Message

Main Themes
- Boldness
- Faithfulness
- Preaching
- Teaching
- Error
2 Timothy
“Introduction and Background”

Open It Questions
A. Have you ever felt equipped and empowered by someone in the faith? Briefly explain the experience.
B. Have you ever equipped and empowered someone else in the faith? Briefly explain the experience.
2 Timothy

“Introduction and Background”

INTRODUCTION
As Paul wrote this second letter to Timothy, the Christian church throughout the empire was facing severe persecution and hardship. Emperor Nero had begun a major persecution in A.D. 64 as part of his plan to pass the blame for the great fire of Rome from himself to the Christians. This persecution spread across the empire and included social ostracism, public torture, and murder.
Thus, the tone of this letter is somber. Paul, imprisoned for the last time, knew he would soon die. Unlike Paul’s first imprisonment in Rome in a house where he continued to teach (Acts 28:16, 23, 30), this time he was probably confined to a cold dungeon, awaiting his death (4:6-8). As Paul awaited execution, he wrote this letter to his dear friend Timothy, a younger man who was like a son to him (1:2). How Timothy must have cherished this last letter from his beloved mentor and friend.
2 Timothy
“Introduction and Background”

SCRIPTURE
2 Timothy 1:1-2
(NIV)
1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, in keeping with the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,
2 To Timothy, my dear son: Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.
2 Timothy
“Introduction and Background”

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

Author
1. Who is the author of 2 Timothy? (1:1)

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, in keeping with the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus, ...
BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

Addressee/Audience
2. To whom was this letter addressed? (1:2)

2 To Timothy, my dear son: Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.
3. How did Paul describe his relationship with the addressee of this letter? (1:2)

2 To Timothy, my dear son: Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.
4. How was Paul’s greeting to this addressee different than to addressees in his other letters with the exception of the first letter to 1 Timothy? (1:2)

2 To Timothy, my dear son: Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.
2 Timothy
“Introduction and Background”

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

Date Written
5. When was 2 Timothy written?

Written about A.D. 66 or 67, from Rome.

(See Paul’s Letters and Missionary Journeys Chart)
# Paul's Letters and Missionary Journeys

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<td>Jerusalem Council and Antioch</td>
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6. From where was 2 Timothy written?

Paul had written letters to Timothy (1 Timothy) and Titus in approximately A.D. 64-65, during his time of freedom between Roman imprisonments. Just about two years later (A.D. 67), he wrote to Timothy again, but this time from prison.
BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

Occasion and Purpose for Writing
7. For what reason did Paul write this letter to Timothy?

To inspire, challenge, and motivate Timothy to carry on the gospel ministry.
2 Timothy
“Introduction and Background”

BACKGROUND
AND CONTEXT

Message
8. What is the overall message in 2 Timothy?

Paul’s second letter to Timothy is a moving letter of farewell to the young pastor in Ephesus. In it we find a message of tremendous significance for the global church: Christians and especially Christian leaders are called to share in suffering as they hold fast to Scripture and to truth while pursuing godliness and encouraging others to do the same.
2 Timothy
“Introduction and Background”

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

Themes
9. What are the main themes in the book of 2 Timothy?

**Themes**

- Boldness
- Faithfulness
- Preaching and Teaching
- Error
10. What is the importance of cultivating boldness to use one’s god given spiritual gifts to serve in the church, even when faced with opposition?

To get over our fear of what people might say or do to us, we must take our eyes off people and look only to God, remembering that he has promised to be with us through everything (see Romans 8:38-39).
11. What is the importance for today to remain strong in our **faithfulness** to Christ.

Even in our churches we may face rejection when we stand for the truth. But regardless of the cost, we are to be faithful to Christ and to faithfully proclaim his Word.
12. What is the importance for today to develop a strong preaching and teaching ministry in the church?

The two most important tasks of a Christian leader are evangelism (sharing the gospel with others and leading them to Christ) and discipleship (establishing new believers in the faith). A vital part of the discipleship process is preparing people to transmit God’s word to others so that they in turn might pass it on.
13. What should believers do to prepare to defend the faith and counter spiritual error and heretics?

The antidote for false teaching is keeping our eyes on Christ and studying God’s word. We must be disciplined and ready to reject heresy. We must know the word of God as our sure defense against error and confusion.
2 Timothy
“Introduction and Background”

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT
Outline
2 Timothy
“Introduction and Background”

2 TIMOTHY
Outline
I. Introduction, Background, Context
II. Thanksgiving
III. Encouragement to be faithful
IV. Instructions to Timothy
V. Paul’s testimony
VI. Conclusion
Next Week’s Lesson

~UNASHAMED~
Fanning the flame of faith
2 Timothy 1: 3-18
PRAYER
2 Timothy
Outline

I. Introduction (1:1-2)

II. Thanksgiving (1:3-7)

III. Encouragement to be faithful (1:8-2:13)
   A. In the face of hardships (1:8-14)
   B. In the face of desertions (1:15-2:13)

IV. Instructions to Timothy (2:14-4:5)
   A. On being a faithful servant (2:14-26)
   B. On apostasy in the Church (3:1-4:5)

V. Paul's testimony (4:6-8)

VI. Conclusion (4:9-22)

LESSONmaker Outlines.